

THE GATEWAY

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Refused anti-abortion posters erected near campus

KRISTINE OWRAM
News Editor

The University of Alberta's administration rejected Campus Pro-Life's request to display several controversial anti-abortion billboards on campus, so the group displayed them directly across the street in protest.

The billboards, which link abortion to genocide, the Holocaust, and black lynchings in the southern United States, were rejected by Dean of Students Bill Connor due to their discriminatory nature and the potential for a dangerous backlash.

Campus Pro-Life originally intended to set them up in Quad, but when they were denied permission, they put them across the street from the Tory Building on Saskatchewan Drive Wednesday.

Bill Connor's reasons for not letting us display these billboards on campus was that they don't make a good backdrop for students playing frisbee in the Quad," said Ian Moes.

PLEASE SEE PRO-LIFE • PAGE 2



STEVE LALIBERN

TAKE THAT, MIKE COMRIE! What's that supposed to mean? Who knows! It's modern art, man, San Francisco style! For other things San Fran, check out page 12.

Augustana merger almost a done deal

CATLIN CRAWSHAW
Associate News Editor

If the province comes through with the necessary funding, a merger between the U of A and Camrose-based Augustana University College will be finalized by 1 July of this year.

"We're waiting for the provincial budget to come out, so on 24 March we hope that we can go back to the U of A Board of Governors and say, 'okay, it's not really going to cost us anything,'" said Dean of Students Bill Connor.

He explained that the deal, which would make Augustana a faculty of the U of A, has been "approved in principle" by the board. While the merger would also need to go through a series of committees, including the General Faculties Council (GFC), he doesn't anticipate anything impeding the merger's success.

The merger has been in the works since this summer, following long-standing financial difficulties faced by the rural liberal arts and science college.

"We did not have the funding. So you can make do, but it's hard to build things, and as circumstances change, the challenge becomes one of hanging onto what you've got. So we were up against a prolonged structural and financial crisis," explained Dr. Roger Epp, interim Dean of Augustana.

Augustana students will face a

number of changes after the merger, explained Connor, including potentially higher entrance requirements and possible tuition increases in the future.

He said that the institution might require high-school students to enter the university with a 65 per cent average in upcoming years, as opposed to the 60 per cent currently required. He stressed that these sorts of details are still being worked out, and will not apply to students currently applying for Augustana programs.

Ultimately, the three-year degree program at the college will also be extinguished, but all students currently enrolled may either switch to a four-year program, or will be given a maximum of eight years to finish their three-year degrees.

He also explained that the college would probably experience a period of rapid expansion, with the goal of doubling the number of students at the college by 2010.

PLEASE SEE AUGUSTANA • PAGE 3



PAUL CLYBURN

U of A Dean of Students Bill Connor explains the Augustana merger.

U of A student hopes to be youngest city councillor ever

JENNIFER FULFORD
News Writer

First-year University of Alberta student Jung-Suk Ryu is running in this fall's municipal election, and if voted in, he will become the youngest councillor in Edmonton's history.

Ryu, an arts student with the intention of transferring into honours political science, first became interested in politics when he joined his high-school debate team. "Once I started debating, I became interested in a wide variety of politics and just got involved," he said.

This involvement included starting Speak Out!, a citywide speakers series which originated at Harry Ainlay High School. The aim of Speak Out! is to encourage dialogue between students and politicians at various schools, including the University of Alberta, through question and answer periods.

According to Ryu, one of the most important issues on his citywide agenda is downtown revitalization. "Specifically, I want to try and implement different initiatives that will promote business and residential growth in the downtown area," he explained. "We are bringing in the World Masters Games, we're bringing in other games

in the future, and when we are showcasing our city to the world, they are going to look at our downtown and our skyline and what's happening in the city core."

"I actually have a wide range of supporters. People assume it is just University kids or people that I know from high school, but I have a lot of political endorsements."

JUNG-SUK RYU,
U OF A ARTS STUDENT

Ryu, who is running to represent ward five, or South Edmonton, has a wide variety of supporters in the city. "I actually have a wide range of supporters. People assume it is just University kids or people that I know from high school, but I have a lot of political endorsements," he said.

His endorsements have been coming from people as experienced as Debbie Carlson, currently the Liberal MLA for Edmonton Elstere.

PLEASE SEE CITY COUNCIL • PAGE 3



15 The man to your left is none other than Bob Stauffer, renowned Bears announcer, circa 1989. For a look at Hot Stauffer in his present-day glory, take your eyes on down to Sports.

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Thursday Snow and rain. M is for the Money spent to visit you? You are High on Low? **Friday Flurries**, A is for the Awesome that you are. High on Low? **Saturday Mo' Flurries**, R is for your outer space rivers. High on Low? **Sunday Mo' Flurries**, S is for Squiggly (who has nothing to do with Marm). High on Low? **Source: Environment Canada**



From the archives

The Housing Union Building (HUB) faced bankruptcy after five years of financial difficulties. When the Students' Union approached the provincial government requesting the money to keep HUB alive, they found government officials unexpectedly sympathetic to their cause, according to one Gateway writer. The Department of Advanced Education granted the University of Alberta Board of Directors \$300,000 for the year's operating deficit. The SU was able to scale back its contribution to HUB, as at this time the SU supplied a portion of the mall's operating costs as part of a plan to keep HUB afloat until it managed to become self-sustaining.

1975



23 The end is nigh... the end of Caricoma, that is in today's Comics section, Rick and Evan plot the death of Fatty. Will they succeed? The beginning of the end starts today in Comics.

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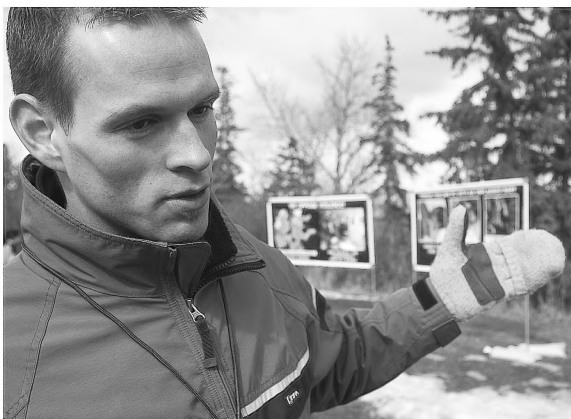
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colophon

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SHAWN BENBOW

AN EXERCISE IN FREE SPEECH? Campus Pro-Life member Ian Moes indicates the controversial billboards.

Comparison of abortion to genocide 'disturbing,' says campus pro-choice

PRO-LIFE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Moes is a member of Campus Pro-Life, but maintained he was there handing out pamphlets as "an ordinary citizen."

"We have a chartered right to free expression, and we've come across the street to display here," he explained.

However, not everyone present agreed with Moes' view of free expression.

"We have no abstract or unlimited right to free speech under the Canadian Constitution," said Lise Gottell, a professor of women's studies. "I teach in the Tory Building, and when I look out my window I can see these clearly, and so can every secretary and faculty member who has a window on that side of the building. It's an issue of workplace health and safety, and it's an issue of discrimination."

"I think this is quite an affront to the dean's decision," agreed Megan Kammerer, a member of campus pro-choice group Voices for Choices. She said that the billboards, which contain graphic images of aborted fetuses in various stages of development, victims of the Holocaust, and a hanged black man, were "situated in a place where people will have no choice whether or not to see them—students driving to work, joggers, people walking on the sidewalk will all have to look at these. There's such as this as freedom of expression,

but there's also a freedom to choose not to see certain graphic images."

The billboards, developed by the US-based Genocide Awareness Project (GAP), have been criticized for being racist and discriminatory, and for inciting hatred towards women who have had abortions.

"I think it's awfully disturbing for a female student on campus who may have had an abortion to walk past this. Can you imagine a Jewish woman who's had an abortion seeing this?"

MEGAN KAMMERER, MEMBER, VOICES FOR CHOICES

However, Moes maintained that wasn't their purpose. "One of the criticisms has been that you're calling women who have had abortions Nazis or members of the Ku Klux Klan, but that connection doesn't hold because the pictures show the victims of the crime and not the perpetrators," he explained. "And we don't condemn women who have had abortions,

we're condemning the Government of Canada and our society at large that has allowed this to go to a level where all wrong has been removed from it."

Voices for Choices circulated a petition a few weeks ago to keep the GAP posters off campus because of their discriminatory nature and obtained over 400 signatures, according to Kammerer.

"I find these racist because they appropriate images of genocide, and they really don't seek to look at the way genocide happened in those countries or the atrocities that were committed there," she said. "I think it's awfully disturbing for a female student on campus who may have had an abortion to walk past this. Can you imagine a Jewish woman who's had an abortion seeing this?"

Moes explained that Jews, blacks, and the unborn have all been denied status as persons at some point, and therefore the link is appropriate and true. "If we consider the unborn to be human beings, then killing them in any instance is still killing them. So if a woman is raped, a second wrong doesn't solve that. I realize that it is a tough issue for them to face, but still, when you come back down to the crux of the issue, it is still an unborn child, and to kill it is still murder."

Dean of Students Bill Connor was not available for comment.

Police still searching for stabbing suspects

ALLIE SMYTH
News Writer

More than a week after the stabbing incident in Cameron Library, Edmonton Police are continuing to gather evidence required to make arrests and are exploring possible links between the stabbing and recent violent incidents around the city.

The student who was beaten and stabbed on 9 March while studying on the second floor of Cameron Library has since left hospital in good condition and is recovering well from his injuries.

"It bears repeating that this was quite clearly not a random attack."

BILL MOWBRAY, DIRECTOR, U OF A CAMPUS SECURITY

Police are looking into several other incidents that have occurred recently in the Edmonton area which are quite possibly related to the Cameron Library stabbing incident.

"The city and the province have put an increasing amount of police resources into fighting street-level violence and its related issues," explained Bill Mowbray, Director of Campus Security at the U of A. "As the police investigate this string of events and tie [the 9 March incident] to other occurrences, they will have a better chance at disrupting the group that would cause such violence."

"It bears repeating that this was quite clearly not a random attack and EPS believes this to be a planned event and that the people involved are known to each other," said Mowbray.

"These things can occur at any times and places in the city," he added.

Mowbray appealed directly to the University community, asserting that someone out there knows something that could help.

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STREETERS

Compiled and photographed
by David Berry and Cosanna
Preston

The Gateway has
hired news year's staff.
Turn to page 4 for the
download.

Of the new Gateway
editors, which would
you like to take to Mars,
keeping in mind that it's
a six-month trip?



Leah Collins
Mono III

Since there's not an awful lot of natural resources on Mars to survive off of, I'd need the editor with the largest body mass, as they'd have the most human editor meat to survive on. Now, they're all a bunch of fat bastards, but I'd probably take Caitlin Crawshaw, because she's tall and she works out, so there'd be more delicious muscle. Plus, she's a vegetarian, so she wouldn't be as gamey.



Adam Rozenhart
Babylon I

I'd take Dan Kaszor, because he'd prevent me from doing anything stupid like punching myself, or punching him, or using one of the Mars rovers as my personal slave to mix me drinks. He'd also probably do whatever I told him to, as long as I threatened his mother's life.



Kristine Owrarn
Queen Pretty I

I wouldn't take anyone, because I really don't like these people. We don't have a lot in common, because they're all a bunch of really big dorks whereas I'm pretty awesome. I would honestly rather die alone after a miserable six-month journey than spend one day with any of these people.



David Berry
Elitist II

I'd take Adam Rozenhart, because I've been waiting to get some alone-time with him since the beginning of the year. Seriously, ever since he grew that sexy Riker beard he's been looking tastier than a bound of putter, and now that he's shaved it I've been having wet dreams like a Catholic 14-year-old.

Ryu encourages students to fight voter apathy

CITY COUNCIL • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ryu hopes this will help his campaign, and he is up against some tough competition. "Mike Nickel, who ran for mayor last time and came in third with about 20 per cent of the votes, is running in ward five as a councillor," he explained. "At least that's what I've heard as rumours." He is also up against incumbent Brian Anderson.

Although the competition is strong, Ryu feels confident in his ability and knowledge of politics and thinks he has a chance in the running.

"When people are looking at political experience, the one thing they want to see out of political experience is political knowledge," he explained.

"I think through my leadership roles, like Speak Out! and through

other initiatives in this city, I have developed a wealth of political knowledge that I think is sufficient enough to know what the issues are, to be able to debate what the issues are, and obviously to be a sufficient city councillor."

However, Ryu does admit that people have expressed concerns about his age. "But I encourage University students to pay attention to what is happening in civic elections and politics in general, because there is huge sort of apathy to civic politics especially, and I want to encourage my fellow students here at the U of A to get involved, to look at the options," he said.

"I'm not telling them to vote for me, but I want them to get involved; get in touch with City Council, because that's the only way for Edmonton to grow."



JAMES RYU

LOFTY AMBITIONS First-year student and City Council hopeful Jung-Suk Ryu.

U of A hopes to double number of Augustana students

AUGUSTANA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This would mean a similar expansion in staff numbers, building structures, and programs offered.

"But the biggest change that I can see is that their degrees will be so much more prestigious," said Connor.

"They're going from being a small college—very good in terms of teaching, but not an institution that's really recognized as being an academic powerhouse—to being a part of one of the best universities in the country."

Pipp explained that, while excited about the initiative, he expects the transition period to offer some challenges.

"Certainly there will be some adjustment. Any time you lose some autonomy, of course people are going to feel that," he said.

"I think all the work we've done

towards a merger presents not just the U of A and Augustana with an exciting possibility. It presents the province with a really exciting possibility. And I think everyone that's been involved in the process sees a lot of positives with it, and we just hope that that's reflected in the budget announcement. I think it will be," he added.

Augustana Student Association President Matthew Hebert explained that, while some students have questions about their programs, he feels the Augustana administration has communicated with students appropriately about the merger.

In his view, the merger will allow Augustana students greater opportunities. "I think that at the end of the day, when they look around and see that Augustana is an institution that will continue into the future, I think that's something they appreciate," said Hebert.

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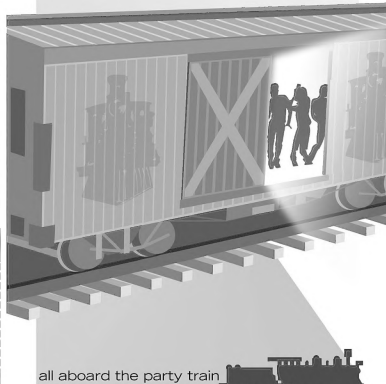
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New editors to make Gateway the most awesome paper in Awesometown

FARLEY MORVATT
Children's Author

After a grand total of 23 hours of interviews and deliberations, the editorial staff for the Gateway's 2004/05 publishing year has been hired.

Perhaps most shocking about next year's Gateway staff is that Editor-in-Chief Chris Boutet, seven-year Gateway veteran and suspected al-Qaeda terrorist, will not be returning. When asked how he thought the new staff would fare next year, Boutet was dumfounded.

"What, you guys did all the hiring already? Huh. I guess you do miss a lot when you're locked in your office fixing comma splices and hyphenating compound adverbs all day," said Boutet. "So, who's doing my job next year?"

Upon being told that his successor was to be current Managing Editor Adam Rozenhart, Boutet's eyes widened as he spit coffee all over his computer screen. "Adam? Adam Rozenhart? Are you fucking kidding me?" he bellowed incredulously. "That slopebrowed Star Trek freak couldn't edit his way out of a wet paper bag that could only be escaped through the completion of a series of grade two grammar tests with the answer keys written on the back!"

"Oh god," Boutet continued, wiping a tear from his cheek. "Everything I've worked so hard for over the past seven years ... in the hands of a psychology major who should have graduated two years ago. It's a good thing that I'll totally stop caring about the Gateway immediately after the last issue's done, or else I'd be really upset."

"Wait, what were we talking about again? You're getting married or something?" Boutet then turned his atten-

tion back towards the red-ink-scarred A&E proof on his desk, mumbling something about how album titles should always be italicized.

Among the other editors hired this year is current News Editor Kristine Owram, filling the post of Managing Editor.

"I'm still not sure how Kristine's going to be the sobering Yin to my raging Yang," Rozenhart said. "I would imagine I'll involve a lot of backrubs and Star Trek marathons."

Owram, resident fashion snob and high-society debutante, expressed some concern for working for Rozenhart. "Nooooooooooooooooooooo!" she screamed.

Current Associate News Editor and incoming Senior News Editor Cosanna Preston expressed a great deal of enthusiasm at the prospect of working with incoming News Editor Caitlin Crawshaw.

"Working with Caitlin will be great. She's such a keen writer I can just dump all my work on her and disappear to RATTI," Preston said as she downed a beer, crushing the aluminum can on her forehead and snarling menacingly at someone on MSN.

Production Editor Daniel Kaszor returns to his post and will continue to be the official "poopy pants" of the newspaper. David Berry and Jake

Troughton will be filling the Opinion and Sports Editor positions respectively. Both are expected to quit being wanks before publishing begins in the fall.

Leanne Fong will be in charge of stealing images off the 'net next year and subtly photoshopping herself into every photo, Heather's Waldo-style. Leah Collins, current Features Editor, will be kicking Heather Adler out of her A&E chair next year.

"I'm going to bring a lot to the position of A&E Editor next year—things like fluorescent hot pants, possibly ice cream. But after that little incident last year when my 'horrible gypsy curse' somehow gave me mono and elimi-

nated the Features section and half of Adam's pancreas, I figured it was back to the academia mines for me. Hey, do these hot pants make me look awesome, or totally awesome?" asked Collins.

"No," Rozenhart responded adding, "I'm very eager to get to work here in newspapertown next year. We have a crack team of editors. Or is it a team of editors addicted to crack? Ah, who cares? All that matters is that they're my slaves now. You hear me, Dave Berry? I fuckin' own you!"

All outgoing editors are expected to have their desks cleaned out and greasy keyboards swabbed down by 30 April.



THESE PEOPLE MAY INTERVIEW YOU AT SOME POINT: From left to right: Adam Rozenhart, Daniel Kaszor, Kristine Owram, David Berry, Leah Collins, Cosanna Preston, Jake Troughton, and Caitlin Crawshaw. Missing: Leanne Fong.



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Mars 2004

A glimpse into the current exploration of the red planet and what NASA hopes to find

Words by Cosanna Preston
Photo by Jeffrey Greeniaus

The stories of little green men may not be true, but the possibility of life on Mars is becoming more and more real.

The increased interest in Mars of late is largely due to the successful landings and explorations by two rovers: Opportunity and Spirit. The rovers' adventures have been monitored closely by their creators at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in the United States, and also by members of the scientific community like Dr Chris Herd, a mineralogy professor at the University of Alberta. All those watching the exploration are waiting excitedly as the most advanced Mars mission to date continues.

"It is unlike anything else that has been done in terms of exploring Mars. These things can go long distances. They can analyze rocks. They can look at them up close and get all kinds of information that we didn't have before," said Herd.

"NASA's overarching theme has been to follow the water. You wonder, why not follow the life? Well the thing is, life is so much harder to look for than water is."

CHRIS HERD,
U OF A PROFESSOR OF MINERALOGY

Launched last summer, the rovers arrived on Mars in January and have been exploring the red planet ever since. Run by solar power, NASA hopes they will last until the end of April, approximately 200 days. While functional, they will separately examine two areas in search of water. Spirit is in what is thought to be a dried-up lake bed, while Opportunity is in an area dense with hematite, a mineral typically associated with large amounts of water.

"Visualize them as geologists. They are looking where water might have been, maybe even still is, and trying to understand the processes that were involved in Mars history. When was water born on the surface? What was the climate like," said Mike Myers, planetary exploration with NASA.

So far, the mission has been quite successful. An announcement was made two weeks ago stating Opportunity found evidence that its area was once submerged in water, but no liquid water has been found on the planet as of yet. There is ice at the poles, but Myers noted that this form of water is relatively useless in the search for habitability.

The scientists' conclusions of Mars'



MARS IS THIS BIG U of A mineralogy professor Dr Chris Herd.

history came from rocks present on the surface whose composition and physical appearance seem to have been altered by surrounding waters. It also came from the minerals that are found in the area. Herd explained that the minerals likely precipitated from water seeping through rock.

Scientists are interested in the possibility of water on Mars for many reasons. NASA has long searched for signs that would make Mars habitable, and water is definitely a key item. Where there is water, there could be life, and discovering life would begin a whole new chapter in space exploration. It also could provide an answer to the fundamental question of whether or not we are alone in the universe.

"NASA's overarching theme has been to follow the water. You wonder, why not follow the life? Well, the thing is, life is so much harder to look for than water is," explained Herd.

"Unless something helps in front of the camera, we won't find life with these rovers. What it does is point to places where we should send the next rover that would have instruments that would be able to measure reduced carbon and that sort of thing, which might tell us if we have found evidence of life," said Myers.

The push to find water and ultimately signs of life has long been a goal of NASA. Myers says the question of if we are alone in the universe has plagued humanity for millennia. He explained that one way to at least begin to answer the question is to determine what the possibility for life is on other planets. If there is life on Mars, then odds are increased that life could exist elsewhere. The more planets found with life, the less Earth is seen as a unique environment.

"In some ways, it is a far cry from finding neighbour aliens to talk to, but finding another form of life is a tremendous step in understanding what the potential is for life and also for understanding life itself," explained Myers.

This comparison between Mars and Earth is where Herd's research on meteorites that have

broken off from Mars and landed on the Earth comes into play. Herd studies the samples and compares the Martian mineral formations to the same types of formations on Earth. Though he acknowledges that Mars and Earth likely have different forming processes for many substances, there are some minerals, especially ones that link to water, which form in very unique circumstances.

"Some minerals are pretty picky about the environment that they form in. Chances are pretty good that if you find that particular mineral, you can place some pretty good constraints on the type of environment it formed in. You might be able to draw better conclusions as to whether it was formed through liquid water or not," said Herd.

"In that way, we know a lot more about the similarities and differences between Mars and the Earth, and we start to learn something about the Earth as well in terms of its geological history."

Exploration on Mars is in its early stages, but Herd predicts that the large amount of recent information will secure Mars missions for years to come. Myers says NASA already has missions planned well past 2009 and is hoping to bring back samples by 2013. This prospect excites Herd, as he hopes by that time the U of A will be able to successfully compete for samples from the red planet.

Further down the line, the ultimate goals of NASA are a little hazier, but Herd speculates human exploration and even settlement is not that far away, maybe even in the next 30 to 50 years.

For now, Myers is content with the increasing cooperation between space agencies, especially between the US and the European Union.

"Right now, you have two rovers on the surface, two US spacecraft orbiting Mars, and two European spacecraft orbiting Mars. This is tremendously lucky, skillful, and very cooperative and all those things are something that we as a civilization should be doing."



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Media coverage of Haiti crisis laughable

I DO MY BEST TO STAY ON TOP of world events, but understanding the Haitian crisis has been virtually impossible. Instead of investigative reporting, the media is presenting nothing but a play-by-play description of the last few months, making it nearly impossible to educate oneself on the issue.

As it stands now, any action disappears under the radar after the day it occurs. With UN approval of the US-led crisis management team, complacency is increased as actions sanctioned by the UN are generally considered okay. Sadly, we know that UN success isn't something one should wager their life savings on.

I've had trouble even finding out information on Aristide's government, let alone details of the entire situation. What concerns me most is Aristide's claim of a coup. Aristide left the country on 29 February; Washington claims it assisted Aristide in a self-initiated departure, but Aristide says the American government forcibly removed him. Aside from day-of-reporting that announced these claims, we have heard very little on the subject. While the public tries to understand the situation with little success, the US and others are moving ahead on Haiti crisis management and reconstruction unquestioned. Already, a US-backed council has appointed an interim prime minister.

The question we should be asking is these actions justified? Was it a coup or did Aristide leave of his own accord? If it wasn't a coup, then we need to know so we can pressure our governments to work towards a collective solution. If we don't, Haiti will be left to the violent rebels, the majority of which are ex-military personnel from the days of Haiti's dictators. If, however, Aristide's claims of an American-led coup are true, this needs to be known so the world can avoid a potential repeat of a Pinochet-type, US-supported puppet regime. The US has done it before, and while I'm not saying they have done it again, there is no way of knowing for sure until reporters get out there and do their job.

There is also the question of interfering with the reign of a democratically elected leader. Whether force was involved doesn't really matter in this case. By France and the US encouraging Aristide to resign, they are interfering in a sovereign state's internal politics and assisting the rebel forces in their cause.

As the Jamaican Prime Minister and chairman of the Caribbean Community, P.J. Patterson, said, "The removal of President Aristide in these circumstances sets a dangerous precedent for democratically elected governments anywhere and everywhere, as it promotes the removal of duly elected persons from office by the power of rebel forces."

Now, this whole ordeal could turn out to be of benefit to Haiti, and Jamaica could be making such statements because it is hosting Aristide—but thanks to the media's lack of comprehensive coverage, we don't really know.

The point is, there are a lot of unanswered questions regarding the Haitian crisis and until the media steps in and probes the situation, people are going to remain complacent and uninformed, allowing a US-led force to do what it will with the country for good or for ill.

COSANNA PRESTON
Associate News Editor

Political hawks

Jean Chrétien screwed us, people are losing their jobs; taxpayers want blood.

Martin wants blood too; say goodbye, Marc Lévesque and Jean Pelletier.

The Conservatives are looking for a leader. Harper is boring.

The spring elections will be upon us right quick. Where do you stand? Huh?

ADAM ROZENHART
Managing Editor

LETTERS

SU clarifies its Campus Food Bank position

Having read "Lack of funding may force closure of Campus Food Bank" in the 16 March Gateway, I feel strongly that several clarifications are necessary.

I did indeed attend a meeting of the Campus Food Bank (CFB) Board of Directors where I, along with the rest of the Board, was presented with a proposal that would see the Students' Union contribution to an independent CFB jump from approximately \$12 000 to \$30 000. At that meeting, the ultimatum was clearly spelled out by the Board Chair Ubaka Oqboquo—the additional funding must come from the Students' Union or the CFB will be forced to close its doors.

The SU simply does not have the funds to contribute that amount from our current budget, so additional SU funding for the coming year will have to be approved as part of next year's budget this summer. As I explained to the Board at the time, and was admittedly somewhat unclear in explaining to Ms Crawshaw, is that the fact of the matter is not simply that "I don't want to make promises that can be overruled" but that neither I nor the Executive Committee has the financial authority to make that call—our budget is approved annually by Students' Council and I was in no position to generate false hope for the Board.

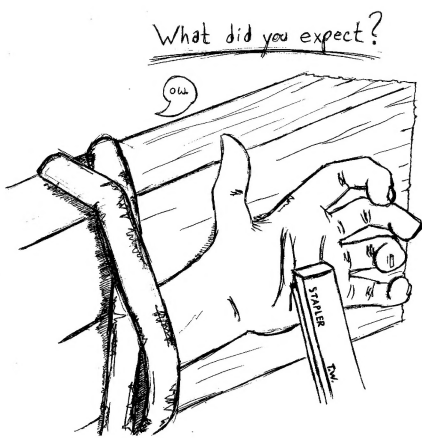
I am happy to see that the GSA has the ability to maintain their \$5000 annual contribution to the CFB for the coming year, but our budgeting processes are different. Having said that, I explained to the Board that once I finished my current work on developing a preliminary budget for the coming fiscal year, I would have a better picture of the possibility of providing the increased funding and offered to return to the Board in early April to provide an update. To say that I "out-right" rejected the proposal is false, and if my comments were simply misinterpreted by the Board, I would like to provide further clarity in the future.

As I was informed that additional costs would likely be incurred in rent and staffing beyond what was presented, and based on my response to revisit the issue with the Board in a few weeks, this is not a closed case from my perspective. As was stated, the issue at hand is "where [the money] is going to come from," and the SU Executive will soon be at work to develop a plan for long-term financial stability for the CFB so that this vital service will be there for students in need for years to come.

TYLER BOTTEN
Vice President (Ops/FI)
Students' Union

Not everyone can take care of themselves

While I agree with Josh Kjenner's sentiments that people need to be more responsible for their own actions or lack thereof ("It's not the fork's fault you have a fat ass, even if you are a lazy moron," 11 March),



like when some students leave all of their crap all over tables and walk away like they were each raised with twenty butlers, I don't think that everyone can take care of themselves.

Not everyone is equally healthy, or on the same playing field. While Kjenner ridicules people for having unhealthy eating habits, or for being homeless, or having alcohol abuse problems, he implies that all of these people are equally capable as him in his own ability to avoid these problems, and that they do so by choice.

According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, five of the ten leading causes of disability worldwide are mental disorders: Major depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, alcohol use disorder and obsessive-compulsive disorder. These "invisible" disabilities can all lead to some of the visible symptoms that Kjenner has isolated as some people's "problems due to personal choice."

For example, the CMAHA's estimate is that two thirds of homeless people using urban shelters suffer some form of mental illness. So perhaps, the man Mr Kjenner referred to who was asking his roommate for some money, but wasn't interested in a construction job phone number, wasn't able to use that form of assistance. He would first need a phone and a return number, probably some experience, warm work clothes, steel-toed boots, good physical health, and a healthy mental state that would enable him to do all the basic things that we so often take for granted.

A friend of mine, with a degree and all of the above prerequisites, spent weeks trying to find construction work with no results. So perhaps someone without some or any of the above may be completely offended by the offer of a phone number that represents so many insurmountable barriers.

Mr Kjenner should find some compassion before he propagates the intolerance that has led to the collapse of support for the social programs that actually can help people to begin to help themselves.

PAUL REIKIE
AFHFV

Don't be so quick to criticize creationists

I would just like to respond to the last couple of weeks' comments on evolution. I am a firm believer in creation and unlike what was stated in some letters, I have read a scientific article—actually more than one—and will be graduating with a bachelor of science next year.

People often point to the fossil record as proof of evolution. The fossil record has been collected for over a century now with no million fossils found. Yet it shows no transitional links. For example, insects appear suddenly without any evolutionary ancestor. In fact, after an extensive study by the Geological Society of London and the Paleontological Association of England, John N Moore reported the results and said, "Each major form or kind of plant and animal is shown to have a separate and distinct history from all the other forms or kinds." Groups of both plant and animals appear suddenly in the fossil record." So the fossil record does not support evolution.

The other major argument by evolutionists is that mutation is the cause of evolution. This is not proven by science. In fact most mutations are harmful or lethal to organisms, harmful mutations outnumber beneficial mutations 1000 to one. Even these beneficial mutations cause a variation in traits, not a different species. In traits, two drosophila with mutated traits are mated together, after a few generations, normal individuals start to be hatched again.

These are but a few of the many scientific facts pointing to creation. Thus, I challenge Jeffrey Greeniaus to write the paper he said he would write when presented with physical evidence that disproves evolution.

REBECCA LARSON
Nutrition III

Images don't affect everyone the same way

Melvin Backstrom's article supporting the right of the pro-life group the Genocide Awareness Project ("Genocide Awareness

Project may be coming to campus," 11 March) to set up on campus demands a response.

GAP's presence on campus would be problematic because of the highly offensive and inflammatory method by which they are advocating their pro-life position, not because they are pro-life (there is already a pro-life group on campus). GAP is seeking permission to set up a display which includes graphic six-foot tall and 13-foot wide photographs of the Holocaust, genocide in Cambodia, Rwanda, and ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia, interspersed with explicit images of aborted fetuses.

GAP's use of genocide imagery is exploitative. The victims of genocide shown in these photographs were real people who truly suffered. The weight of their personhood and deaths should not be trivialized. Victims of genocide are not symbols to be appropriated by an alien cause.

GAP should not be permitted on campus because their presence will cause unnecessary harm. In order to adequately reconcile the tension between protecting freedom of expression and respecting those who are forced to listen, the form of expression must be respectful. GAP's freedom of expression should be limited because its message engenders hatred. GAP tacitly vilifies an identifiable group—women who have had abortions—by equating their actions to the perpetrators of genocide. Moreover, GAP seeks to promote its hateful message in a common space in which all students should feel safe.

Freedom of expression is important because it ensures that people are free to discuss ideas. However, freedom of expression should not be understood to license any manner of conveying ideas, or justify the use of outrageous and dangerously provocative allegations. The pro-life position can be addressed without relying upon connections that are both emotionally harmful and profoundly exploitative.

The trouble with Melvin's analogy, that one's freedom to swing one's fist ends where one's fist hits another's face, is that punches do not impact all faces equally. PLEASE SEE MORE LETTERS • PAGE 8

If people knew just how much they pay in taxes, the Liberals would be in trouble



JAKE
TROUGHTON

A fool and his money may soon be parted, but even the fool generally notices and gets angry when the parting takes place. That makes it even harder to understand why it's only now, after more than a decade of blatant and deliberate mispadding by the federal Liberals, that the Canadian public is finally starting—and just starting, mind you—to get genuinely upset about the waste of what is, in theory, their money.

If you walked up to random people on the street, took \$20 from their wallets and set it on fire, chances are good that within a few minutes you'd have a sizeable lynch mob tailing you. People take their money seriously. Yet when the Liberals do more or less the same thing on a much grander scale, the general reaction is weak protest turning to grudging acceptance. The most plausible explanation for the difference seems to be that the public simply doesn't consider government money "their" money. But as silly as that seems, it's not surprising given the structure of our tax system.

Considering that over half the income of the average Canadian goes to pay taxes of one sort or another, taxes in this country are extraordinarily well hidden. They're hidden in the price of goods or withheld by employers, but they are almost never sent directly from taxpayer to government. For all the many thousands of dollars in taxes that the average

Canadian pays, only a few unfortunate ever have to write an actual cheque to the Receiver General. In fact, in the case of income tax, the system is set up such that most taxpayers receive an annual cheque, often for fairly hefty amounts.

Whether the advantages of this system—and there are no doubt several, convenience being chief among them—it serves to obscure the true cost of government and to detach the taxpayer from the tax collector. People may know in the abstract that \$X thousand is being withheld from their paycheques and sent to Ottawa, but perhaps it never really sinks how much is being "taken" when they're never actually in possession of the money in the first place. Of course, people realize that the government is costing them money, but the number on line 420 of your income tax return, fascinating though it may be, just doesn't carry the same immediacy as the new big-screen TV you bought with your refund cheque.

The upshot of a system like this is that voters react to extreme government waste with a resounding shrug.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN Reasons your rock band broke up

- 10 Practice time seriously cutting into heroin addiction time.
- 9 Drummer lost other arm.
- 8 Gut finally burst the dam that was your leather pants.
- 7 Vastly overestimated demand for Halloween covers.
- 6 Cops found out about underage Malaysian roadies.
- 5 Suffered permanent injuries after staging diving into lighters during slow song.
- 4 Ran out of metaphors for having casual sex with loose women.
- 3 Bandmates won't stop freakin' out about that whole "burying a groupie in the desert" thing.
- 2 Devil apparently reneged on pact to make you a star.
- 1 That fucking dickweed Axl.

Quit making excuses for dictators



MELVIN
BACKSTROM

To mark the one-year anniversary of the United States going to war to oust Saddam Hussein, The Edmonton Coalition Against War and Racism is having a rally. Not content with the recent signing in Iraq of the most democratic constitution in any Arabic country, not even content with the planned withdrawal of US forces and the handover of power to the Iraqi National Council by 30 June, this group, along with many others, is demanding the withdrawal of foreign troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, and undoubtedly an apology from Bush, Blair and company for having gotten rid of everybody's favourite horrible dictator, nothing like the good old days of Iraq under Saddam.

It's not that I have anything against people expressing their opinions, however ignorant they may be. It's just that when the US and Israel are seen as the sources of everything wrong in the world, other issues tend to be missed.

Take Cuba, for example. Cuba has been run by a totalitarian dictator for 44 years who has never allowed free elections. It's gone from being one of the richest countries in Latin America in the 1950s to one of the poorest,

despite the fact that between 1960 and 1989 it was subsidized by the Soviet Union and other communist governments to the tune of approximately \$6 billion a year. Far from its present poverty being the result of US sanctions, as Castro's defenders always like to argue, the economic basketcase that is present-day Cuba is the inevitable result of a centrally planned economy that only ever "worked" because of all the money the USSR gave it for being the only country ever foolish enough to actually choose to be part of the Soviet orbit.

But, thankfully, the Soviet Union is no more and Cuba, along with the totalitarian horror that is North Korea, are the only countries still hanging onto any hope of realizing Marx's misguided prophecies.

Well perhaps that's a bit harsh. Perchance you're a committed Marxist who sees these countries as great success stories for holding back the tide of Imperialist Capitalism and as the vanguard of the inevitable World Revolution. Maybe so, but it still doesn't explain why Castro, a guy former British Labour MP and Saddam-crony George Galloway inexplicably calls a "hero," feels the need to throw ten librarians in jail for up to 26 years for the horrible crime of writing articles and running private, non-government censored libraries—that or summarily trying and executing three black men for the horrendous crime of hijacking a ferry boat in order to try to escape their island prison.

Of course, actions like these are the

tip of the iceberg in this paragon of socialism. For example, Article 303 of the Cuban Penal Code threatens "publicly manifested" homosexuality with a year's imprisonment, the result of which has been indefinite prison terms for hundreds. Samuel Farber, a professor of political science who grew up in Cuba, notes that, "the present Cuban government ... has done more to promote homophobia than any regime in the country's history."

This should, of course, cause those on the Left who, at least ostensibly, place such an importance on human rights to condemn Castro—but for the most part, this has not occurred.

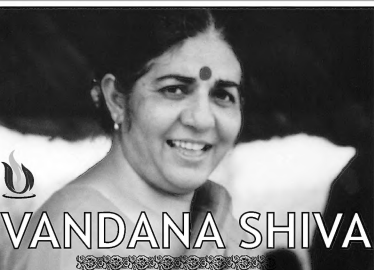
Nat Hentoff, a prominent civil libertarian in the US and writer for the *Village Voice*, has been one of the exceptions in pressing this issue for years, but has been mostly ignored by those on the Left who would much rather complain about the treatment of prisoners at the US Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay—where conditions are infinitely better and prisoners are at least allowed access to the Red Cross—than dare criticize Castro's "socialist paradise." Interestingly enough, the British newspaper the *Guardian* reported on a young Afghani who had been in Guantanamo and was recently released, quoting him saying that "I am lucky I went there, and now I miss it. Cuba was great."

At the rally this Saturday, however, you're unlikely to hear anything about this. Instead, there will be a yearning for the good old days of Iraq under Saddam. How very, very sad.

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MORE LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6
GAP's fist may not hit Mel's face, but it will certainly hit the faces of many on campus.

ALYSSA FRASER-HOPKINS
Arts III

Allow GAP on campus; students can decide for themselves

In response to Melvin Backstrom's article, "Genocide Awareness Project may be coming to U of A campus" (11 March), I have one key objection. At the end of the article Mr Backstrom states that GAP's actions are "the logical consequence of anti-abortion beliefs." One of the aspects of the controversy surrounding GAP that I find most troubling is the blatant lack of logic associated with the claim that abortion (a choice made by individuals) is comparable to genocide (the mass extermination of human beings, especially particular ethnic groups). Once we recognize that this comparison is shaky at very best, the question becomes why GAP chooses to use images of some of the most notorious genocides in our history for their poster campaign.

The image of a victim of the holocaust or of a KKK lynching is shocking; these are images of violence that, quite rightly, evoke reactions of outrage and disgust. By using these pictures in their campaign GAP is attempting to capitalize on the pain and suffering of countless people; in short, to turn the indignation that we feel when we see these images against women who choose to have abortions and those people who provide them.

These images are not simply harmful because they compare the decision to abort to the hateful policies of the Nazis or the KKK, but also because they are taking advantage of the many people

whose lives were damaged by these actual genocides.

I hope that if GAP does succeed in coming to our campus regardless of our personal views on abortion. Those of us who do not condone the exploitation of these images will have the courage to tell them that attempting to further their cause through the anguish of other people is not appreciated.

MEGAN GOLDBIE
Arts II

Bertuzzi coverage smacks of Edmonton Sun-style reporting

Picking up the Gateway last week, I was pleased to find a sports article related to the Todd Bertuzzi incident ("Point-counterpoint: should Bertuzzi be charged?", 11 March). I was furious to find that both opinions in the article were trash-talking one of the best players in the NHL.

I expected to find a faceoff on the whole situation, not just whether Bertuzzi should face charges or not. Sure, I agree what Bertuzzi did was wrong. The guy lost it on the ice and you're right; he should face the consequences. And it seems the Gateway, using Edmonton Sun-style journalism, decided to publish a shallow report on "evil" Bertuzzi. So let's now look a little more in-depth, shall we?

First, we know the incident stemmed from a sketchy hit that Moore took on Captain Markus Naslund a few games prior to this incident. So put yourself in the shoes of the Colorado coach (Moore's team). The score is a washout 9-2 and your team is leading by seven points late in the third period. I'm no coach, but isn't this when third stringers get their time to shine? I didn't know that that's when you put a guy like Moore, with a crosshair on his back,

to go skate around. Stupidity is the only reason this guy is on the ice during the game. Now let's look at Moore. This guy was challenged to fight during the game by Bertuzzi (more than once), May, Rautu, and Cooke. So the guy decides to finally tilt with the smallest player on the Canucks (Cooke). Good job, Moore.

Face it, Moore, you injure a team's captain with a shady open-ice elbow, expect to fight. Period. Moore would not be in a hospital bed had he squared up like a true sportsman and settled this thing. Instead, it's late in the third period, your team's down by seven points, your team captain and best friend lying on the ice bleeding is the only picture in your head and the guy responsible for your rage mocks you. You snap. It's hockey, punches are thrown, it happens. Did Bertuzzi mean to put Moore in the hospital? No. Nobody does; accidents happen. That's hockey, and that's life.

MARK BROWN
Arts II

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@gatewayualberta.ca.

E-mail is always preferred, since the Managing Editor is exceedingly lazy. In fact, I'd say that if you e-mail the letter, it'll end up in the paper sooner than if you drop off a hard copy. It's the digital age, kids. In the words of perennial crybaby, Cuba Gooding Jr, help me help you.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.



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6:00PM MONDAY MARCH 22, 2004

LOCATION:

Tory Lecture Theatre 12

All graduate students are encouraged to attend the Graduate Students' Association Annual General Meeting. The AGM allows graduate students to voice their opinions on important issues and to vote to approve a number of agenda items. Included on this year's agenda are:

- Election of GSA President, VP Communications, VP Labour Relations, VP Finance and Administration and VP Student Services
 - Approval of the GSA 2004-2005 Budget
- Proposed amendments to the GSA Constitution
- Election of Graduate student representatives to the General Faculties Council and Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research Council
- Reports from the GSA Executive outlining their activities this year
 - Report from the Graduate Student Ombudsperson

This is the key opportunity for graduate students to hear and interact with their GSA representatives and we strongly encourage all students to come out and participate!

For more information please call the GSA office at 492-2175 or drop in to see us at 206N Power Plant.

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A sovereign Saskatchewan would ruin Canada



ROSS MOROZ

For 137 years, Canada has managed to remain strong and intact, in spite of the many traitorous bastards who have tried their best to destroy this nation. Every era seems to produce a new villain bent on ruining Canada, whether it be the 1860s (the Fenians), the 1960s (the FLQ) or the 1980s (Brian Mulroney). But all of these previous menaces pale in comparison to the danger Canada may soon face. At this very moment, there is a group working to irrevocably damage Canada, a group with the popular support, the economic wherewithal and the iron will necessary to hold this fair nation ransom and force us all to capitulate to their maniacal demands. Yes, the worst fear of Canadian federalists has finally been realized: Saskatchewan wants independence.

This weekend, the Independence Party of Saskatchewan held a founding convention in Melville that was attended by a whopping thirty people, which, considering how many Saskatchewanians seem to live in Alberta these days, must be nearly half of the province's electorate. This angry mob of revolutionaries formalized the new party's policies, voting to oppose same-sex marriages, abolish universal healthcare and do away

"More frightening is Ritter's promise of a motivated and antagonistic military based in the independent nation of Saskatchewan. Submarines stationed in Meadow Lake could fire ballistic missiles at any target in North America, and, with a large Canadian Forces Base, Edmonton would be a prime target."

with tax exemptions for Aboriginals. In a stirring address to his devoted followers, fearless and visionary party leader Bruce Ritter promised to "replace the RCMP here with a Saskatchewan police force" and to "set up a national defence force" once his party inevitably comes to power in Saskatchewan.

Like all Canadians, I was thoroughly shaken upon hearing this news. Canada has everything to lose if Saskatchewan manages to break away, having already benefited so much from the contributions of Saskatchewanians, who will have left an impressive cultural legacy. There are few better examples of Canadian music than The Northern Pikes' provocative protest song "She Ain't Pretty, She Just Looks That Way," or any of the stirring and memorable ballads of Colin James. Outside of the arts, some of Canada's most thoughtful and competent politicians have hailed from Saskatchewan, including the dignified and soft-spoken John Diefenbaker.

More frightening is Ritter's promise of a motivated and antagonistic military based in the independent nation of Saskatchewan. Submarines stationed in Meadow Lake could fire ballistic missiles at any target in North

America, and, with a large Canadian Forces Base, Edmonton would be a prime target. However, Edmontonians would be better off than people living on the Alberta side of the border town of Lloydminster, which is destined to become a 21st century West Berlin. Albertans in general will have to learn to be on the lookout for Saskatchewanian spies who will be distinguishable from Albertans only because of their use of the term "bunny hug."

Of course, the rest of Canada will likely do everything possible to dissuade Saskatchewan from breaking away, not wanting to lose access to Saskatchewan's vast resources which, according to grade six social studies, include wheat, potash and, um, wheat. Certainly there will be some kind of referendum, and Canadians will rush to Regina to hold massive "NO!" rallies on the frozen surface of Wascana Lake. The federal government will try to increase their profile in the province with a grossly expensive sponsorship program.

And I will support those moves, because Canada needs Saskatchewan, and the mere thought of losing her leaves me shaking in my bunny hug — er, hoodie.

Marriage has been corrupted by heterosexuals



ADAM SNIDER

Family values are in trouble. All across North America, a movement is spreading that threatens the very core of our society. Those who support this movement mistakenly believe that they are improving society. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Before I get to the core of my argument, let me just say that, despite having been born and raised in Alberta, I am not a slack-jawed yokel who listens to Nickelback and drives a pickup truck. I say this to offend those who do fit such a mould, but rather to remove myself from the negative stereotypes associated with that segment of the population. I am not a bigoted redneck. I am—I like to think—a rather progressive guy. However, I still believe that family values in North America are under attack. The menace: heterosexual marriage.

Now, I know you may have been led to believe that heterosexual marriage is not so bad. Perhaps you've been told that it is not a threat to family values. Perhaps you've even come to believe that it is a civil rights issue. Again, nothing could be further from the truth.

The cold reality is that heterosexual marriages will inevitably bring about the end of civilization as we know it. As one opponent of heterosexual marriage has said, "It is a proven fact that every single serial killer, pedophile, and every other criminal is the result of a heterosexual union. This fact cannot be disputed. Heterosexual

marriage breeds evil."

Furthermore, 50 per cent of all heterosexual marriages end in divorce. This statistic clearly illustrates that heterosexual unions are ruining family values in both Canada and the United States. We must take a stand on this issue. We must let our elected representatives know that we will not stand for the mockery of basic North American family values. We must reverse the legislation that has been passed allowing this abominable practice to become acceptable.

Maybe you're reading this and thinking, "Sure, 50 per cent of heterosexual marriages breed evil and result in divorce, but what about the other 50 per cent?" Well, let me tell you about the other 50 per cent. Yes, it's true that, while one half of heterosexual marriages result in divorce, the remaining half, obviously, do not. However, that doesn't mean that these marriages should be accepted. It is a well known fact that most children raised in heterosexual families become heterosexual themselves. This is unacceptable.

Some of the most horrible atrocities in history have been committed by men and women raised by heterosexual parents, the Holocaust, the development and use of atomic weapons. What kind of message are we sending to future generations if we allow such unions to exist?

We must put an end to heterosexual marriage now, before it is too late. We cannot allow people to enter into relationships that bring so much evil into the world. If you are in favour of heterosexual marriage, you are in favour of murder, rape, pedophilia, and countless other deviant activities that are produced by heterosexual unions. While you are free to think whatever you like, I cannot stand quietly by knowing that my nation's children

are allowing heterosexuals to destroy North American family values.



This week's burlap sack is a two-fold beating. First, I'd like to place St Paul provincial court judge Don Demetrick into the chaffing bag for his controversial ruling this week.

Essentially, the judge overturned the ruling of a provincial firearms officer who denied firearms possession to a woman with a history of violence. The ruling was overturned because Demetrick believes people need guns to protect themselves from predators, be they human or animal.

I thought that organizations like the police or RCMP existed to provide citizens with protection. What Demetrick has essentially done with his ruling is endorsed a form of vigilante justice. For that, his ruling should not only be overturned, but he should apologize for making statements of that nature.

Finally, I'd like to place myself in the burlap sack for agreeing with statements made by Premier Klein. When asked what he thought of Demetrick's ruling, Klein said, "Do Albertans need firearms to protect them? You're asking my opinion? No, they don't."

You're right, Ralph, and it makes you all the more difficult to dislike. Thus, it's sacktime for yours truly. Please, be gentle.

ADAM ROZENHART

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.

THE GATEWAY

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They say Christmas only comes once a year. How little "they" know.

Students at the University of Alberta know full well that Christmas comes twice a week—every Tuesday and Thursday. And like the veritable Santa Clauses that Gateway editors and volunteers are, we delight in jumping down the chimneys of your hearts to bring you a little taste of the joy and celebration of words and images.

You, good sir or madam, can be every bit a part of the merriment we bring. But it's not going to be easy; you need to get off that little sofa we like to call "complacency" and brave the terrors of the Students' Union Building to come to our little version of the North Pole: 3-04 SUB; the Gateway offices.

Drop the pen, close those books, and come to where it's Christmas every week.

THE GATEWAY
 Piss-poor analogies since 1910

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CENTRAL

10176 - 109 St.
 426-2355
 12302 Stony Plain Rd.
 488-6622

Edmonton City Centre
 10200 - 102 Ave.
 421-4540

NORTH

Costco North
 993-5188
 12924 - 97 St.
 473-2355

EAST

Capilano Mall
 (outside entrance by Safeway)
 450-6880

6558-28 Ave.
 440-2812

6839 - 83 St. (Argyll Rd.)
 465-5271

SOUTH

6031 - 103 St.
 438-2355
 9128 - 51 Ave.
 438-5114

South Edmonton Common
 485-9812

South Edmonton Common
 (inside Superstore)
 701-3355

Southgate Centre
 434-5620

Costco South
 909-4544
 9261 - 34 Ave.
 702-6001

Hub Mall
 9004 - 112 St.
 970-3608

WEST

West Edmonton Mall Phase II
 (by skating rink)
 413-9855

West Edmonton Mall Phase III
 (by London Drugs)
 443-3022

10013 - 170 St.
 408-8917

10608 - 170 St.
 485-2255

Costco West
 907-0330

LEDCU
 6104 - 50 St.
 986-0986

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 417-2355

ST. ALBERT
 Inglewood Town Centre
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Millwoods Town Centre
 436-7766

SHERWOOD PARK
 Sherwood Park Mall
 416-1775

ST. ALBERT
 St. Albert Centre
 418-1681

LEFT COAST CITY

I was there.

I was standing in the foggy streets of San Francisco last year when the petition began to recall California governor, Gray Davis. For months, Californians were unhappy with his performance; the energy crisis was spiraling California into a huge deficit, and an unpopular car tax was introduced despite public outcry. Students across Californian campuses were pulling me aside to relay the message. I heard the outrage and I saw the joy in the eyes of Berkeley and San Francisco State University students; they were thinking, "we're doing something revolutionary again, and it's crazy."

San Francisco has a history of oddballs and eclectic citizens. The Beat writers Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg and the flower power bands like Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead are typical examples of the spirit in the city. I had often read in novels that San Francisco was not a city of stuffy offices and corruption, but a city of dreamers and troublemakers. They were hippies and flower children, rebel rousers and passion seekers who lived on principles of ideology. When I arrived late last summer and saw the crumbling

dotcom offices and the Wal Marts moving in, I was scared. Was the world's beloved city of dissent, the self-named Sodom of the Sea, turning into a humongous Disneyland? Where was the city I had heard so much about?

Words and photos:
Steve Lillebuen

continued next page

continued from page 11

I was determined to find
the essence of the city I had read about,
if it even still existed.

I had no interest in more Starbucks and McDonalds; I wanted to feel the culture of San Francisco—not tourism or fakery, but the culture of its people. What I found one evening was a transvestite singer named Nicole McRory.

I was staying in Johnny Foley's Inn, named after the biggest San Fran socialite you probably never heard of. This was a place that an adventure-seeker can't avoid. It wasn't listed in any travel guides. The price was cheap and the building was straight out of a pulp novel. My hotel window

was an inch away from the next building's window and my neighbor could hear me breathe. Paint peeled off the walls and the radiator had beads of sweat on it at all times. It was fantastic.

I retired to the pub in the lobby of the

inn seeking something that I feared was dead everywhere but in the eyes of those petitioning students. I found a place to sit in the middle of the pub, an island of dark wood and unpolished brass. Behind me, the Giants baseball team was discussed among wrinkled

men, the bartender joining their conversation between customers. A few pints of local brew later and Nicole arrived at the pub, strapped on a guitar and began to play. I was hearing Janis Joplin. I was hearing Green Day sung in the voice of Johnny Cash coming from a red-haired lady of about 35.

The crowd perked up and got cozy. Something was happening here that was curling smiles and opening eyes. She had an energy that invigorated the room. I exchanged glances of surprise with the rest of the crowd. Who was this person? I was buzzing pretty hard.

I requested Radiohead. "Great," Nicole smiled, "that's two of my favorite things." We roared. She played. We laughed and bonded. During the set, break I hugged her. "You're the best thing about my trip so far," I



confessed. "Can you play at my wedding?"

That was night one. The next morning I found City Lights Bookstore, the home of the Beatniks.

I couldn't believe it was still there. Tucked away on the northern edge of downtown, the store had gone under renovations, but looked as it did in the photographs I had seen. Mr Ferlinghetti, co-founder of the alternative culture's "literary landmark," was still around and yelling at the government to get the hell out of his city. This was the only store in America that sold banned books during the '50s. The staff were obvious hippies who spent a lot of time reading poetry and growing really big beards. It was charming.

I saw so many instances of San Francisco's charm, so how could such a city was taken over by corporate influence? Was becoming so dirty and run down? It must have been the tourism! At the very least, I could blame consumer culture.

It was possible. But then here I was, a walking contradiction, the reason why San Francisco was simultaneously great and depressing. My presence as a tourist illustrated that the city had been auctioned off to the highest bidder during the '90s. Yuppies moved in because San Francisco was the "hip" place to be. With them came the major companies, and the independent stores closed down one after one. The increase in new business meant more tourists. Street vendors were taken over by chain restaurants and franchised operations. Lawrence Ferlinghetti had written in '98 that the city had "always been a poetic center, a frontier for free

poetic life, ... but [was] in danger of losing it. All that made this city so unique in the first place seemed to be going down the tube at an alarming rate."

This was a city where anti-establishment politics became part of the establishment. The Free Speech Movement started just across the San Francisco Bay at Berkeley, and the city was the first to pass revolutionary laws on pensions, unionized work, and gay rights. It was saddening to see that spirit fade away. I left San Francisco confident that the people had the fighting spirit, albeit diluted from ten years of money being thrown at the city by the yuppies to go in all the wrong places: dotcom companies, more freeways, and glossy TV shows like *Nash Bridges*. Too many tourist grabs

had been put up. Granted, I bought my fair share of T-shirts and toy cablecars, too. I was just as much to blame for the city's downfall as the next tourist. I brushed off my trip as a walk through the past, a chance to visit with locals that would die and not be replaced by equally rebellious citizens.

So you can imagine my shock when Governor Davis actually got recalled and when I heard San Francisco's Mayor Gavin Newsom tell the world a few weeks ago that he was opening the gates on gay marriage. "I do not believe it's appropriate for me, as mayor of San Francisco, to discriminate against people," he said. "And if that means my political career ends, so be it."

The city was not dead after all, I thought. The city was still dreaming and doing shocking things. Looking back at my photographs, I saw that the spirit was written within the very fabric of the city: the architecture, the bridges, and the landscape, not just the people.

San Francisco spirit was everywhere,
and it was beautiful.

THE REBEL ROUSER TRADITION

LAWRENCE FERLINGHETTI

Driven by the desire to stave off the forces of conservatism and censorship, poet and artist Lawrence Ferlinghetti, along with business partner Peter D Martin, opened City Lights Bookstore in 1953. The store, the US' first all-paperback bookstore, and the only bookstore in the country to sell banned books throughout the McCarthyist '50s. City Lights became the refuge of Beat writers such as Allen Ginsberg, who pushed the boundaries of American literature. In 1955, Ferlinghetti launched City Lights Publishers, and the 1956 publication of Ginsberg's *Howl* led to the poet's arrest on obscenity charges (Ginsberg was later acquitted), bringing national attention to San Francisco and the Beat movement.

HARVEY MILK

Legendary gay rights activist, and the first openly gay elected official in the US. He was assassinated a few years later, on 27 November, 1978, by an anti-gay spokesperson who got off on a lower sentence due to the infamous "Twinkie Defense." His lawyer successfully argued that his client could not be held accountable for his actions because of the sugar high he was on from eating cupcakes and drinking Coke the night before the murder.

HUNTER S THOMPSON

After moving to San Francisco to research the Hell's Angels, Thompson became best known for his reinvention of the road trip genre with his drug-induced novel *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. He is one of the originators of new journalism, an artistic style that made the journalist part of the story instead of an unbiased observer.

JOSEPH P MAZZOLA

A San Francisco union leader, Mazzola was responsible for the beginnings of the collective bargaining agreement of the labour movement of the '50s. He helped establish paid vacations, health and welfare and a pension plan for west coast union workers. Benefits established by Mazzola spread throughout industry. Practically all future building and construction trades contracts owe Mazzola a tip of the hat.



THE PEP RALLY

Hockey

You know, theoretically, hockey isn't even taking place this weekend. You see, the **Bears** [26-0-2 Canada West, 4-0 playoffs]. But you thought I was going to make fun of their two ties, didn't you? Yeah, well, looks like you haven't yet learned that I am just full of surprises. For instance, did you know that I was scouted by three professional European soccer—or fútbol, as the Europeans call it—teams until a knee injury tragically cut short my fútbol career? Yeah, I bet you're surprised. Want another surprise? I totally made that fact up. You see that, just full of fucking surprises. Full actually play in the National Championships next weekend, but due to the sorry lack of anything happening this weekend, I'm forced to cover it a week early.

But do you know what they are doing this weekend? Practicing. They practice all this weekend, doing powerplay drills and horseshoes and shooting and such. Why, I bet they might even scrimmage. Isn't that interesting? Scrimmage? I'll bet they probably tie one or possibly two of them. Yep.

Hey, they also leave for Fredericton on Monday. That's in New Brunswick. That sure is a long plane ride. They were trying to get enough money together to send someone down there to cover it, but we sadly came up short. Perhaps if a certain athletics department could have spared a few dollars more, we could be down there. Not that we're complaining or anything. Oh no. We love the athletics department, despite the fact they probably won't give us money to cover the team we love so much. Love 'em.

Wrestling

There is actually one sporting event going on this weekend that may or may not involve the University of Alberta, and it is the Junior Nationals of wrestling. Now, I'm not really sure what these are, being as how the CIS championships of wrestling already happened, nor am I sure what makes them so "junior," nor do I know where or when any of this is in fact happening, aside from this weekend, presumably somewhere in Canada. Regardless of this fact, I'm sure the U of A will win, or possibly take home a medal, or at the very least put up a very good showing, unless, of course, we're not actually involved in any way. Also, I've just realized I need to bold some things, so I better mention to both the **Bears** and **Pandas**, because they're the only words important enough to be bolded, except for media outlets like **CJR**, **FM88** or **TSN**. Those also get bolded.

Bob Stauffer

Have you ever wanted to meet the man behind the microphone of Bears' hockey and football games? I did, which is why I went and did a big of profile on "Hot Stuff" this week. If you want to get a glimpse into the life of one of the U of A's most famous athletes, fans, not to mention an all-around great guy, look to your right—no, further than that—and read about Bob Stauffer and his exploits. See Bob, I can be nice.

Withnail, & Joel

Joel Despite the fact there are absolutely no sports going on this weekend, I'm still going to make you write an absurdly long and unnecessary Pep Rally, for I am a heartless and cruel master, with no sense of compassion for anything, less of all you.

Me: I submit willingly to your request, oh cruel lord of the dark netherworld, but do not think for but a second that I shall forget, or forgive, this grave injustice on your part.

Joel: Dost thou challenge even I, the greatest swordsman who has ever lived? Have your shoulders bid a fond farewell to your head, for they shall not be together much longer (sword unsheathed).

Me: Draw, you yellow-breasted strumpet, and we shall finish this once and for all...

"SEXY" DAVE BERRY
Sports Fiction Writer

Pair of wrestling Bears to compete in Canadian Junior National Championships

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Writer

Most of the U of A wrestling team is already enjoying nearly two months off from competition. But this weekend, a pair of young Golden Bears will be strong contenders to win medals at the Canadian Junior National Wrestling Championships in Calgary.

Bears Anthony Kulak and Jarret Wall will compete in the under-20 tournament after winning at the provincial championships last week. Because the championships uses international weight classes rather than the closer divisions used in CIS competition, both wrestlers will face opponents outside of their usual classes, which should work to Kulak's advantage but will pose a challenge for Wall. While Wall will face wrestlers up to 2kg heavier than he's accustomed to, Kulak's biggest opponents will be 4kg lighter than usual.

"This weight class is much more suited to [Kulak]," said Alberta coach Vang Ioannides. "He's pretty small for the 54kg class that he wrestles at in CIS, but he's wrestling at 50kg this week, which is much better for him. At the CIS championships, he was tiny compared to the competitors he was wrestling against. This is a great opportunity for him to wrestle against people his own size for a change."

On the other hand, the different weight divisions will leave Wall as one of the smaller competitors in his class. Ioannides is confident that any negative effect will be minimal, but admits that the distribution puts a bit of a squeeze on Wall.

"The classes are 66kg and 74kg, and Jarret's too big for 66, but he's not very big for 74," said Ioannides. "It's a bit of a disadvantage for him, but there are several people who that's the case for, so I think he'll fare alright."

Wall is carrying a lot of momentum into this weekend's tournament. He placed a surprisingly high third at the CIS championships two weeks ago at Brock University, and Ioannides said there's no reason to expect him to wrestle any less well in Calgary than he did in St. Catharines.



FILE PHOTO: JEFFREY GREENAUS

DINO DROP! Bears Jarret Wall and Anthony Kulak travel to Calgary this weekend.

"He stepped it up at the CIS, and I don't think very many people were expecting him to medal there," said Ioannides. "The way he wrestled there was fantastic and he's certainly kept that going. I think he's turned a bit of a corner, and he's really come on."

While Kulak only placed seventh at the CIS nationals, Ioannides expressed even higher expectations for him this weekend than for Wall. Facing lighter and younger competition than

usual, he says the freshman grappler will be one of the top contenders in his weight class.

"I'd be very surprised if Anthony doesn't come away with a medal. As a matter of fact, I think he could win it all," said Ioannides. "If all goes well, I expect medal performances from both of them, but it is fairly competitive, especially in Jarret's weight class. [But his CIS bronze] was a huge step up, and he should be competitive for a medal this weekend as well."

U of A contributes two to Universiade biathlon team

JOEL CHURRY
Sports Editor

For Russell Bird and Marcie Reinhardt, it wasn't just spam that graced their inboxes late last week. After a drawn out selection process, the two University of Alberta students were notified by e-mail of their selection to the Canadian Biathlon team for the 2005 World University Games to be held in Innsbruck, Switzerland.

Comprised of the top six male and female



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY JACQUELINE AKERMAN
SHARPSHOOTER U of A student Russell Bird.

full-time students in the country, the team was selected after races were completed in Val Cartier, Québec and in Canmore, Alberta. Out of six races in all, each racer's best three results were averaged and used to determine who made the team.

For Bird, this marks the first opportunity to compete at the international level. Shooting with an average 98 per cent accuracy, Bird finished third in Canada among male competitors. The third-year English student recently began studying in the University of Alberta after finishing two years at Augustana University College while participating in their biathlon training program.

Reinhardt, however, is still pondering her commitment after the selection. Finishing fourth with an average 95 per cent accuracy, she has yet to decide whether

she'll go, as this will be her third

opportunity to compete at this level. Having already graduated with a bachelor of science, she's now in her second year of her masters. "I went in 2001 and 2003, so I still haven't decided yet if I'm actually going to go to the next one because of the cost, and just because I don't know how much training I'll be able to do over the year yet," said Reinhardt. "But I'm still thinking about it, because I was definitely glad I went the other two times."

For most of the athletes heading to the competition, the commitment level compared to Olympic athletes is far less. The full-time schooling requirement restricts the amount of time allowed for practicing, pressuring the athletes

to balance their academic and athletic schedules, much like the other varsity athletes on campus. The University Games offer quality competition for the athletes without demanding the full-time hours of training of Olympians, but still requires a large amount of time management. Neither Bird nor Reinhardt have aspirations for competing at the Olympic level.

"I don't plan to be 30 and have an Olympic fifteen place finish under my belt with no education, and having to start from scratch," said Bird. "But I like learning the time management skills necessary to compete at this level."

Because the U of A doesn't have a biathlon program, both Reinhardt and Bird are responsible for raising the money necessary to make the trip. "They pick the team a year in advance to give us the time to acquire sponsors and we get help through the Adopt-An-Athlete program," said Bird.

U of A Athletics director Kim Gordon emphasizes the students' fundraising concern. "We allot \$500 per athlete for international competition, and work with them and Adopt-An-Athlete to get them to the competition," said Gordon. "I wish we could do more because I believe in the value of an international experience for every athlete." Gordon also mentioned that the U of A is in the early stages of putting together a bid to host the 2009 Summer University Games.

The next winter competition will take place from 12-22 January, 2005, with 1500 athletes from 50 countries expected to compete. The Universiade is second only to the Olympics, with over 70 medals given out in ten different disciplines.

Bob Stauffer: the golden voice of the Bears

DAVID BERRY
Sports Writer

Bob Stauffer couldn't be anything but a sportscaster. As he sits in his office, Bears and Pandas posters adorning nearly every free space, his made-for-radio voice slips soothingly around the room with booming, perfect enunciation. As Stauffer explains it, he knew he was going to be a radio broadcaster from the very beginning.

"From the time that I was six years old, I would sit there and do play-by-play on my little table-hockey game," says Stauffer as a smile crosses his face. "I knew then that's what I was going to do."

Stauffer, like many of Edmonton's sports-inclined youths, grew up listening to Rod Phillips and Bryan Hall on the radio, and used to sidle into the gym as much as any of the sports heroes of the day. And while those voices from his boyhood helped him get started, the husband and father credits his work with Molstar Communications, doing stats and graphics for the Oilers' games, with giving him some formal training by working beside some of the biggest and best names in the business.

"By working with Molstar, I was beside [the New York Rangers'] Sam Rosen, who does Fox NFL Football, or [the Vancouver Canucks'] Jim Hughson, who is probably the best play-by-play guy out there, or [the New Jersey Devils'] Mike Emrick, who does CBS Olympic hockey and I learned literally by osmosis," says Stauffer, speaking of them like most fans would talk about Wayne Gretzky or Mario Lemieux.

Much of what he learned helped Stauffer with his Bears' broadcasts, but it also came in handy for landing his other job, the afternoon drive-



PLAY-BY-PLAY MAN Bears hockey and football announcer Bob Stauffer.

time host on The Team 1260 sports radio. Though he admits that it's a lot of work—almost 80 hours a week between his job as communications director for the U of A and hosting a radio show—Stauffer found the inspiration from a source a lot closer than you might expect.

"My attitude is that if [Bears hockey captain] Blair St. Martin can be a father and a husband and go to Med School and be the captain of the most demanding team on campus, then Bob Stauffer can be a father and a husband and host a show and do this job and do play-by-play," explains Stauffer.

This respect for athletics is evident when he talks about his work for the U of A, as Stauffer feels a responsibility to what he considers the best program in the country.

"We've got the best teams and we've got the best coaches, and with that comes the responsibility of having a communications office that writes

more stories and broadcasts more games and tries to push the envelope more than any other school—and we do," says Stauffer proudly.

Though the program is important, it's the students that come first for Stauffer. His admiration for student athletes in particular is clear, but the way he explains it, it's hard to imagine anyone thinking anything else.

"When you're around people that are in their twenties that can combine the level of academics that students at this institution have to have with the commitment that they have ... I have more natural passion and belief for this than any of the NHL stuff I do. I have more respect for our men and women as a whole than I do ... " He pauses for a second, the radio announcer whose talent comes so naturally, for once, unable to think of the words.

Well, for a second anyway. "Well, I don't know if respect is the word, but I certainly care more."



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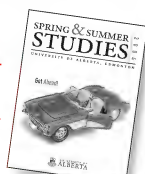
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NHL owners only want your money



ANDREW
TOUGAS

Sports
Commentary

When the Edmonton Trappers asked for a new ballpark in 1994, the city said yes. At the time, the basis of their argument was that without an upgrade, minor league baseball would be gone forever and the city would never recover. Now, ten years later, the ballpark we constructed will remain in memory long after the Trappers leave after this season. A lesson has been learned.

Now, on the eve of a possible NHL lockout, fans are being urged to support the owners again, this time by fighting to bring fiscal sanity to professional hockey. The present sales pitch is that with a salary cap, teams would be able to provide affordable entertainment in a stable, competitive league. Without it, many teams will be lost and the watered-down hockey being played will continue to suck. But in reality, the proposed salary cap won't make ticket prices any cheaper and small-market franchises won't be any more secure.

The truth is, however, that the outrageous seat prices that have long been the bane of the "real fans" have little to do with the player salaries and everything to do with market prices. The Boston Bruins can't attract flies to the Fleet Center because loyal fans feel ripped off over the good money they've paid to owner Jeremy Jacobs over the years, with nothing to show for in their trophy case. This has led to loads of fan

apathy for the Eastern Conference contenders—much like the current Stanley Cup champion New Jersey Devils, who still flirt with the idea of leaving town. Meanwhile, also in Boston, the other professional teams such as the Patriots and the Red Sox have little trouble getting top dollar for their tickets because they reward their fans with a top-line product. High demand understandably drives prices high.

That same logic worked in Edmonton, as fans found the hundreds of dollars that ticket scalpers were charging for last year's eventual playoff loss to the Dallas Stars easier to stomach than usual. The Oilers would've been smart to charge the fans the price they eventually paid to the mulleted greaseballs outside the centre formerly known as Skyreach, and reap the rewards of this short-term craze.

The truth is, however, that the outrageous seat prices that have long been the bane of the "real fans" have little to do with the player salaries and everything to do with market prices.

The next issue is franchise security. NFL aficionados will tell you that the salary cap has made NFL franchises no more secure from relocation than before it was introduced. The truth is that the NHL has experienced just as much relocation as the NFL in the last ten years. The reason there hasn't

been more movement in the CFL is that individual cities have coughed up the ransoms demanded by their franchises to keep teams in town. Surely, the demand to keep or attract an NFL team can be partially credited to the salary cap, as every franchise has an opportunity to be competitive in the league.

But the NHL is an entirely different story. There are no quality markets for teams to move to anymore. No one seems intent on making the proverbial offer that can't be refused to get an NHL team in their market. Some of that has to do with stability and competitive balance, but a lot has to do with teams wasting away in the Sunbelt. Of the four teams that have relocated in recent history, only one went to greener pastures—the Colorado Avalanche. The rest are now withering in cities apathetic to their team's successes.

To suggest that markets exist that can support hockey is to ignore that none of the ailing teams in the States have seriously considered relocation. Relocation is a big gamble, especially when one sees how fruitful the move to Carolina was for the former Hartford Whalers.

Supporting the owners in the upcoming collective bargaining agreement means you believe the owners themselves deserve more money. This means that you actually believe people exist with the philanthropic intentions of spending a small mint—something in the range of a small country's GDP—for your sports entertainment. It's time we looked at Tels Field to remember the lesson we've learned, and think twice about who we throw our support behind once the lockout happens.



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Snowman creates an avalanche of techno fun

Dietzche V and The Abominable Snowman

With guests
Friday, 19 March
Halo

HEATHER ADLER
Arts & Entertainment Editor

When you go by a name like Dietzche V and The Abominable Snowman, no one is ever going to take you seriously. But luckily for the local techno-rock hybrid that goes by said moniker, sincere appreciation for their work is pretty low on their list of performance priorities; they'd much rather just get people dancing, hit on cougars and wage a not-so-quiet war against post-modernist shoegazing.

"We're just out there to enjoy ourselves; it's all about getting out there, having fun and getting people dancing again," explains lead Snowman, Jared Stufko. "There's been a real shift with what people have called disco-punk where people are getting out on the dance floor again. Although we wouldn't necessarily want to be grouped into that trend, there is a sort of post-rock shoegazing that is reaching a dead end, and I for one am pretty happy about that."

Originally just a two-piece act, Stufko started the band as an outlet for some creative techno tinkering, but after a close bass-playing friend strongarmed his way into the Snowmen's collective heart, the group began playing as a live band infused with DJ sensibilities. The change has been a hit with many on the local scene and even a few more mature listeners. "We had some older ladies, and when I say older ladies I mean cougars, at one of our shows at the Sidetrack who were busting it pretty hard on the dance floor," Stufko laughs. "It was pretty cool because it broke the ice for everyone to get out there and get into the groove."

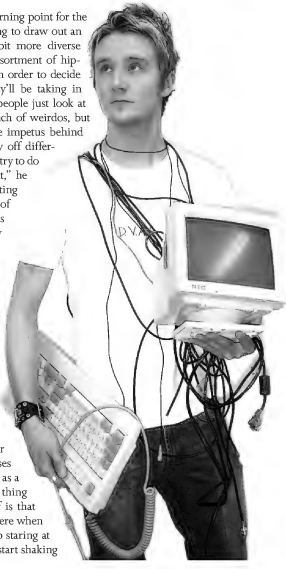
"Hopefully there'll be more out for this show because we're all single. There's kind of a thing with cougars and the allure of there being no strings attached," he adds, hopefully sarcastically.

When they're not seducing horny housewives with what Stufko calls "tech revelry," the band can be found working away in their home studio. Last year, they released a five-song EP on mini-CD that topped out at 18 minutes, which suited their fun-loving ways just perfectly. "Most techno and house tracks are these 13- or 14-minute dance-floor numbers that take four minutes before the drums even come in. We wanted to make a techno record in the pop format, so when we went to make the CD, we wanted to limit ourselves to short songs," Stufko explains. "The whole concept behind that five-track EP was just to put something out that was a little bit different from what you usually see."

Stufko says their upcoming gig at Halo

will be a bit of a turning point for the band; they're hoping to draw out an audience that's a bit more diverse than their usual assortment of hipsters and cougars in order to decide what direction they'll be taking in the future. "Most people just look at us like we're a bunch of weirdos, but that was the whole impetus behind doing this—to play off different stereotypes and try to do something different," he reveals. "We're putting in a little bit more of an effort [into this show] just to try to get some different people out rather than just our old standby. We're going to use the show as a barometer to see if we should push ahead with this, or if we should maybe keep it low key."

Whether the tech-savvy boys decide to take their rhythms to the masses or stay comfortable as a local favourite, one thing you can be sure of is that they'll always be there when you're ready to stop staring at your sneakers and start shaking your body.



Kroeker earns his masters in songwriting, hits the road

Joel Kroeker

With Paul Kelly
Thursday, 18 March
The Sidetrack Café

JEREMY SHRAGGE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Tired of the same old routine and his current date of acoustic gigs, Joel Kroeker is ready to move on and try something new. "It just gets boring to do the same thing over and over again," says Kroeker in reference to his current slate of acoustic gigs. "I just find that you get inspired in different ways when you are playing with different artists."

"It's a bigger rock sound when I'm playing solo. That's one of the things I was trying to deal with on this album. It's a big pop production, and then I try to play solo—it's a fun thing to try to create this big sound by myself."

JOEL KROEKER

A native of Winnipeg, Kroeker is currently making his way from Ottawa towards the Pacific in support of his debut album, *Melodrama*. Recently released on True North records, *Melodrama* most accurately belongs to the genre of pop music; nevertheless, Kroeker maintains his solo performances are not what one might first expect.

"It's a bigger rock sound when I'm playing solo," says Kroeker. "That's one of the things I was trying to deal with on this album. It's a big pop production, and then I try to play solo—it's

a fun thing to try to create this big sound by myself."

After a brief respite at home, Kroeker will be hitting the road once again on 5 April, opening for Hawksley Workman on the latter's eight-stop western tour. This time, however, Kroeker will have his supporting band, the Collective, to back him up.

While he won't concede that the upcoming four-province expedition with Workman represents a new high point in his budding career—Kroeker's résumé registers performances with other pillars of the Canadian pop scene, including Sarah Harmer, Tal Bachman, Colin James and Andy Stochansky—he insists that he is still excited to be sharing the marquee with Workman. "I've done a lot of shows with Hawksley before, so I think it's going to be a big party. I think it's going to be really fun."

Despite the fact that Kroeker now calls the Lower Mainland home, he still retains fond memories of the City of Champions; he claimed top prize in the 1999 Old Strathcona Singer-Songwriter Competition, as well as a first-place finish in CBC Alberta's Performance 2000. Shortly after these successes, Kroeker graduated with a masters degree in Ethnomusicology from the University of Alberta, an experience that he says continues to shape his music today. "The ethnomusicology thing has really affected the way I hear things... because it opens your mind and your ears to all these different ethnic sounds from around the world," he explains enthusiastically. "Studying sitar and tabla and all these instruments has helped me to really be able to hear different possibilities sonically."

For his thesis, Kroeker undertook an ethnographic study of up-and-coming Canadian singer/songwriters such as Oh Susannah, Yede Hille and Steven Fearing, and analyzed their behaviour the way anthropologists "would study and African tribe."

"My main point was trying to figure out how the singer/songwriter genre in particular

was what I called 'liminal'—showing how it's ambiguous enough that it allows those people to use that ambiguity to promote themselves in different ways," he elaborates. "So for example, a country singer can't promote themselves in a punk rock sort of way; they have to be wearing a cowboy hat or whatever. But as a singer-song-

writer, you can do almost anything in your promotion, and that helps them because they can hit much wider audiences."

Whether it is pop or rock, solo or ensemble, ethnic or Canadian, academic or artistic, music is constantly changing for this young artist, and it's always an adventure.



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Unimaginable pain not enough to make Journey worthwhile

Journey

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JESSICA WARREN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Public executions were once a gathering ground for the masses, eager to satisfy their innate thirst for blood or entertainment before the dawn of the more easily accessible, and morally acceptable, movie theatre.

Today, public executions are illegal and we masses now have film to quench our need for spectacles, and as Warren Miller's 46th feature film demonstrates, watching a screen full of unimaginable pain and horror can be just as fulfilling as seeing it in real life.

Like all other Miller movies, *Journey* is about skiing. It features an ever-changing group of skiers and snowboarders traveling the world in search of their next big thrill on the slopes, and moving from extreme to greater extreme as it jets its famous participants from North America to Europe to Africa and back.

The scenery throughout is amazing, with vistas of bright snow, blue sky and mountain ranges that most people have never heard of. Miller chooses obscure snow destinations—such as Marrakech, Africa—as well as recognizable ones like Aspen, Colorado, to keep his audience interested for the hour and a half they

will spend watching the same sort of thing happen at different places in the world.

Many of the athletes here say that the vulnerability and powerlessness of humans among nature is a driving force behind them pushing themselves to ski ever faster, steeper and higher slopes. It's also what gets them into some of the worst accidents anyone will ever witness, and that involves mangled limbs, massive head traumas—the works.

Along with the beautiful scenery and philosophical ramblings inherent in Miller's work comes a plethora of groin injuries and head-over-heels flips down mountainsides that leave the viewer reeling from ghost pains and thankful that they're witnessing instead of experiencing the carnage onscreen.

This, undoubtedly, is why a lot of people venture to watch the 46th installment of a series of films about winter sports—a topic usually reserved for Sunday night documentaries on PBS. Where else can you get African villages, Amazon landscapes, and European avant-garde architecture as backdrops for the kind of pain we all secretly yearn to see others try to endure?

Journey is an interesting movie at first—it even has vintage footage of Marilyn Monroe on skis (falling, of course), and it devotes some time to out-of-the-ordinary sports like kayaking and skiless waterskiing—but by the end of the show, even the inspiring music behind the



SCREE! This guy is about to get hurt.

voice of 89-year-old, still-at-it-and-loving-it Warren Miller couldn't convince you to stay and watch the injury footage included beside the credits. This movie relies too much on overly repetitive action sequences placed over alternating backdrops to keep the audience watching.

Cut the time in half or add some new scenarios to the formula, and the rest of this series will be accessible to avid and non-skiers alike. For now, viewers should prepare themselves for a mediocre roller-coaster ride that straddles the line between engagement and boredom.

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1208
Turn Of The Screw
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JESSICA WARREN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With mainstream punk quickly becoming a watered-down mass of intellectual death, 1208 sticks out with their solid album of songs, written both for society and the heart.

From the dejected words of "Fall Apart" to the socially defiant, "Smash the Badge," Turn of the Screw manages to stay afloat amongst the redundant and stale workings of many of its conventional competitors in the "punk" genre. Obviously growing up in California hasn't had the same effect on these guys as it did with Swirl 360 and Wave. In fact, it seems to have actually made them—gasp—an interesting band with something to say. Who knew that there were any bands like this left in the genre?

With a purposeful lash against the popularity of mall-punk, 1208 succeeds in proving that no matter how many spikes and badges exist on the clothing of a band's lead singer, the heart of punk remains in the music. Take note all you button-wearing, jean-jacket sporting faux-hawks out there: being punk isn't actually just a fashion. It's also a little something called a "music genre."

Impotent Elvis stars in *Ho-Tep*

Bubba Ho-Tep

Directed by Don Coscarelli
Starring Bruce Campbell, Ossie Davis,
Reggie Bannister, Elio Joyce and
Heidi Marnhout
www.bubbahotep.com
Opens Thursday, 18 March
Metro

JASON NORMAN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Once in every lifetime, the clouds part just enough, the stars all align right and the gods smile down upon mankind, rewarding us with a movie where an elderly Elvis Presley fights an ancient Egyptian pharaoh threatening the souls of an east Texas nursing home. *Bubba Ho-Tep* is one such a heavenly gift, and the result is quite possibly the most absurdly imaginative and thoroughly entertaining film since *Being John Malkovich*.

Bubba Ho-Tep is the "true" story of Elvis Presley (played superbly by *Evil Dead* veteran Bruce Campbell) who is in the process of dealing with the perils of old age in a Texas nursing home. Elvis, being tired of the rock-star lifestyle, switched places with an impersonator years before his "death" and then missed his chance to switch back. His only friend and believer of his true identity is Jack (Ossie Davis), an elderly black man who believes he is actually former President John F. Kennedy. These two aging American



ACHY-BREAKY HIP Even the king has to suffer the turmoils of old age, but at least his ailments make for a great film.

icons join forces to rid their nursing home of an ancient evil that strikes the residents as they sleep, but their main problem is not the creature itself—it's their own lack of mobility.

Elvis' narration of the movie—while told in an off-the-wall manner that often revolves around his faltering libido—actually deals with some surprisingly deep thoughts on love, family and the life of the elderly.

Elvis has an achy-breaky hip—among other more masculine mala-

dies—and is confined to a walker, while Jack—once a strapping and youthful president—now trusts most of his motion to a motorized wheelchair. Hands down one of the oddest tag-teams in Hollywood history, Campbell and Davis provide hilarious yet convincing portrayals of two American heroes in the autumn of their years.

The plot of this film does seem a bit too insane to work, but amid all the crazy characters and Egyptian curses, there is actually a clever drama underneath and even some horror movie undertones thrown in for good measure. Elvis' narration of the movie—while told in an off-the-wall manner that often revolves around his faltering libido—actually deals with some surprisingly deep thoughts on love, family and the life of the elderly.

Bruce Campbell is best known for his over-the-top B-movie roles in films like *Army of Darkness* or *Evil Dead*, but in *Bubba Ho-Tep* Campbell portrays Elvis with great honesty and a strong reserve. He does have some hilarious lines in the movie, but for the most part this is a very strong piece of character acting done by a man who, has been greatly overlooked as a serious and very talented actor until now.

With a vastly original screenplay, solid acting, and visually intriguing cinematography, *Bubba Ho-Tep* provides an incredibly unique movie-going experience. The movie is alive with imagination sheer hilarity, and it keeps your attention from the first frame to the closing credits. A movie like this one comes along as often as an Egyptian curse or a reliable Elvis sighting.

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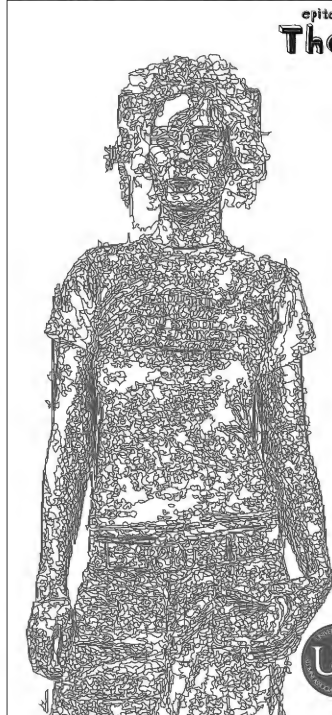
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THE GATEWAY
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SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Our illustrious Arts & Entertainment writers go out and get the skinny on what's happening over the weekend and into next week so you don't have to.

Reinventing Sex for the 21st Century
 Alumni Room, SUB
 Thursday, 18 March

Since you're most likely spending most of your time these days in Cameron Library finishing last-minute projects, you may prefer campus events to going out. Well, you're in luck, because as it so happens, the alumni room is getting some action tonight.

Because a malfunctioning of the Students' Union website is preventing anyone from figuring out exactly what this event entails, the only way you can find out is by actually attending. Either way, it's got "reinventing," "sex," and "21st century" in its title. Who can't relate to those?

Wax Mannequin
 Stars
 Friday, 19 March



This Hamilton-born, one-man spectacle has dedicated his adult life to bringing curious tongue-in-cheek melodies and intellectually puzzling exhibits to unsuspecting audiences throughout North America.

The show is the work of Chris Adeney, who can best be described as an art-rock savant. Adeney uses something he refers to as the "Jimmy System" to encourage his audience members to get involved in his show by creating art on the fly during his concerts. This "art" is usually comprised of tinfoil and construction paper, and those daring enough to participate earn Jimmy points. Earn enough points and Adeney says you'll get super powers! Who doesn't like super powers? If I had a super power, I'd want the ability to understand what cats are saying.

The Edmonton Home and Garden Show
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 Opens Thursday, 18 March

If you're yearning to listen to over-the-top enthusiastic salespeople demonstrate the revolutionary Swiffer Sweeper, learn how to install a new-age birdbath in your backyard, or find out how to revive your drooping rhododendrons, this yearly event is where you should be this weekend. The show welcomes both domestic and domestically-challenged people alike. Who knows? You might even win a trip to see Dr Phil live in Los Angeles.

HEATHER ADLER & ASIA SZKOLARSKA
 Arts & Entertainment Hippies



THE OFFSPRING? I was all like "it's awesome!" and he was all like "pishhhhh!"

Music snobs not as superior as they think



MIKE
LAROCK

just old fashioned, but don't expect me to sit back and applaud you.

The huge irony about music snobs is that as much as these people would like to give off the impression that their musical tastes are somehow unique, all evidence would point to the contrary. If I tried to count how many people I saw each day with a torn jean jacket covered with The Clash patches overtop of a Ramones T-shirt, I would lose count before I even got off the bus. Not to say that these bands aren't totally awesome, but to claim superiority over those who listen to pop by showing off these bands doesn't make you any more unique than someone who listens to their Nickelback record all day long.

I'm going to let you in on a little secret here: I like pop music. Take a few minutes to compose yourself.

I know it's pretty shocking to hear someone admit that they like pop, but what's even more surprising is that from walking around campus, you might think that I'm the only one. Somewhere between Beanie Mania and the Backstreet Boys it became massively uncool to listen to anything that might grace a top-40 list. In fact, it seems that lately the more eclectic and obscure your music collection is, the more valid it becomes. Music snobs are taking over, and there is no room left for pop-loving rockers like myself.

I'm not saying that I only listen to pop music; I listen to Axi-Funk and Propagandhi, but I also like Sum 41 and—gasp—Our Lady Peace. Yet, when I mention the latter groups in public, I have to deal with the sideways glances and off-putting looks of self-declared music aficionados who have a problem with what I listen to.

To these people I have one thing to say: fuck off. Now, before I've died, indie-loving, funky-hat-wearing free spirit comes to hunt me down, let me make one thing clear: I don't have a problem with people who choose not to listen to pop because they don't like it. My beef is with today's pretentious, self-absorbed music snobs who refuse to listen to popular music simply because it's popular music.

What could someone hope to achieve by completely snubbing an entire genre of music? Ultimately, I figure it comes down to insecurity and a need for some form—no matter how small—of superiority. I can see no other gain from harbouring such an elitist viewpoint. Simply put, these individuals define themselves not by what freaky band they like this week, but more by showing people what they choose not to listen to. Maybe I'm

I'll make the concession that pop music might have taken some pretty big missteps over the years, but for every O-Town and LFO that the industry spews out, bands like Blink 182 continually produce good records which will ultimately be ignored—or as I suspect, enjoyed in secret—by the ostentatious "music fans" who will pass it off simply because it fits into a certain genre.

I listen to new music and indie bands, but as much as some pop bands may purportedly blow, I'm willing to give credit where credit is due. Take Hanson, perhaps one of the most ridiculed creations in recent pop history. Their music may have been iffy and their staying power questionable, but they wrote their own songs and played their own instruments, and at the end of the day, I can respect that. And as much as I'm sure you're going to deny it, I'm willing to bet at least a handful of people reading this article found at least one Hanson song catchy.

So should everyone "Mmm...bop" their way down to the record store to scoop up whatever is hot on the pop charts this week? Certainly not, but the fact is that for as many pop bands that become big because of the corporations behind them, just as many reach the same success simply by being awesome. Next time an album comes out that you likely to ignore, at least give it the benefit of the doubt. Pop has a place too. Right guys? Guys?

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Southwest Edmonton, close to UofA. Looking for reliable female roommate, shared house. \$600/month, \$25 damage deposit. Includes utilities/laundry/drycleaning. Near all amenities. Call Cat @ 455-1414 between 5-9pm.

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New Queen/King Mattress Box Sets. Extra Thick Orthopedic Double Pillowtop. Cost King \$1800, Sacrifice \$550. Cost Queen \$1000, Sacrifice \$295. Free Delivery. 453-3755.

New Queen/King Mattress Box Sets. Extra Thick Orthopedic Double Pillowtop. Cost King \$1800, Sacrifice \$550. Cost Queen \$1000, Sacrifice \$295. Can Deliver. 720-6613.

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1999 Daewoo Nubia. \$5900 auto. 4800, auto. Sony CD, new brakes and tires, leave message at: 993-5387.

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Looking for house/apartment to rent from 10 March - 30 August. Can house-sit or sublet. 688-6571.

CASTING CALL: Miss Hawaiian Tropic Model search coming to Cowboys. Your chance to win 2004 Jeep TJ, \$1000 Cash, Trip to Las Vegas, \$500 stereo system and the list goes on. ALL ENTRIES WELCOME! Call David for contest information at 905-8239.

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Great Summer Job! Best wages of any student painting company. Have fun this summer and make money. Call Jason at 708-9027. Part/fulltime cashier wanted. Compensation based on wage plus tips. Apply in person Banzi Restaurant, 4608 Calgary Trail, ask for Calvin or Jeff.

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Great people, fun job, good wages with Student Works Painting. Contact Mark, 504-9849.

EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

2004 EXPANSION: Customer Service/Sales. Flexible work around classes. Great Pay! 497-7701. www.workforstudents.com/am

Part-time cashier wanted. Mostly weekdays and some weekends. Must be good with cash handling. Contact: 451-8857 from 6pm to 9pm.

Golf free and get paid. Colonial Golf Club is offering excellent opportunity for reliable, courteous, and self-motivated people for the following departments: clubhouse and grounds maintenance. Competitive wages and free golf offered to successful applicants. Forward your resume ASAP by fax to 909-2540.

BKOS Research is looking for confident outgoing people to be involved in leading social policy research. All candidates must have strong communications skills and an articulate, friendly telephone demeanor. Bilingual is an asset. We provide a two day's training session at a starting wage of \$9 an hour. For more information about BKOS, please visit our website www.bkos.com.

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Career and Placement Services (CaPS) is accepting applications for the positions of Career Peer Educator and Peer Educator. Promotions for the 2004-2005 academic year. Information is available at CaPS (2-100 SUB) and on the web at www.ualberta.ca/caps.

Now hiring part-time cashier for southside convenience store, located one bus from UofA, a positions available. Shifts needed are Monday-Saturday 8pm to 3pm, Sundays 10am to 3pm, although shifts are also flexible. Starting wage is \$11/hour, with an increase after 6 months. Interested applicants should apply in person with resume to Rivermart convenience store 14908 45 Ave, OR call 435-7591. Please ask for Joe.

PERSONALS

Edmonton's Coolest Party Line!! Meet New People, Make New Friends. Personal Voice Ads, Jokes, Stories & MORE!! Free Local Call. Ladies-R-Free! Fully Automated! Try It Now... Dial 44-PARTY.

THREE LINES FOR A TOONIE

Happy birthday, MI! May the year bring you much wabi sabi, laughing llamas, and me-me-me's. The world's pretty inside the bubble. Hmm? Look at those sparkling colours.

Hey! hot! Where's your panties? You looked ghetto fabulous on Friday - so spread for me!

Julia trains Other Campus Recommendation of the Week: STOP STALKING MY SISTER IN HUB, weirdo-stalker-HUB-guy...



Suicide Awareness Week March 15 - 19

Myth: All suicidal individuals are mentally ill.
Reality: Although the suicidal person is extremely unhappy, he or she is not necessarily mentally ill.

Myth: People who talk about suicide don't do it.
Reality: One out of ten people who kill themselves, eight have given definite clues about their intentions. Suicide threats and attempts must be taken seriously.

Myth: Asking about suicidal intent will encourage an attempt.
Reality: It is more likely that he or she will welcome an opportunity to discuss these feelings.

For More Information about the topic of Suicide:
come see our booth from March 15-19 across from SUBtitles.

OR
Stop by the Student Distress Centre at 030-N
SUB for more information about suicide.

Need Help? Student Distress Centre 492-HELP (4357)

- call
- drop in
- make an appointment

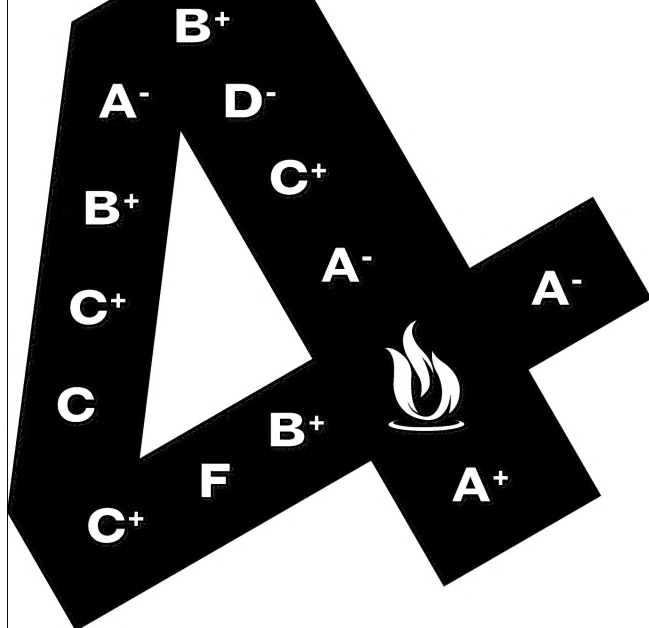


030-N SUB | sdc@su.ualberta.ca | www.su.ualberta.ca/sdc

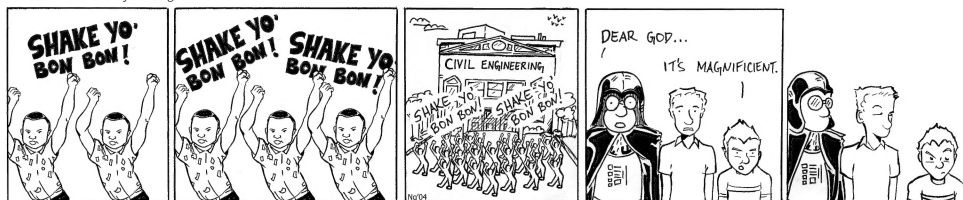
Your Fall 2003 Grades May Change

The Fall Term 2003 grades came in lower than expected due to an error in the grading system. All Deans and Department Chairs will be working with Instructors to review and, if necessary, regrade all Fall 2003 courses according to the revised grade distribution. Any changes to grades will be made no later than March 31, 2004 and all students whose grades change will be notified. Keep on top of your Fall grades by staying in contact with your professors and ensuring that you get the grade you deserve.

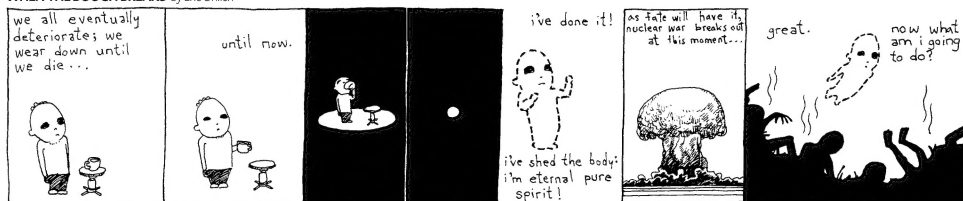
Fall 2003 Grade Adjustment Info Session
Hosted by SU VP Academic
5:00PM Wednesday, March 24
Alumni Room



COMPUTER BLUES by Kevin Ng



WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS by Eric Uhlich



PLAN-B by Mike Snider



Information SERVICES

Past Exam Listings

Housing Listings

Tutor Listings

Used Books

Volunteer

Ride Sharing

Info Desks

Beer, rent, beer, rent...

in a perfect world the answer would be beer.

Become informed of your rights and responsibilities as a tenant and prevent conflict with your landlord.



Attend the Tenant Information Session

Thursday, March 25 in Humanities Centre,
Room 2-11, 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm

Register on-line at infoserv@su.ualberta.ca, or call 492-4212.
Drop-ins welcome. FREE TO ATTEND.

A Service of your Students' Union



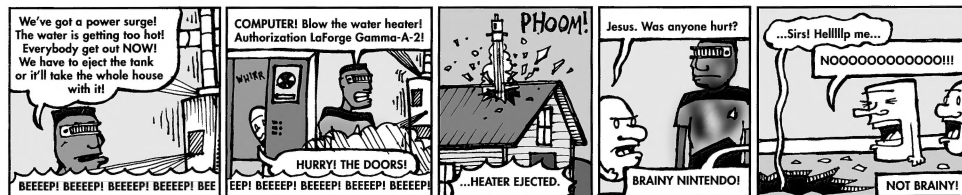
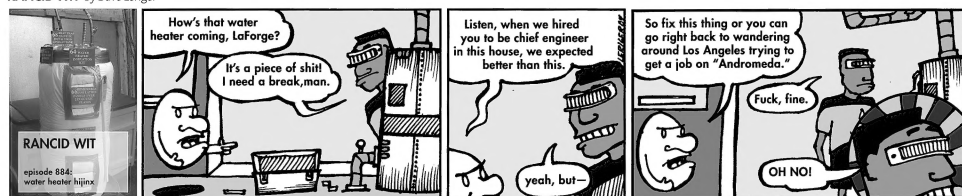
SPACE CAT by Fish Griukowsky



BLACKOUT by Chris Krause and Jen Koskela



RANCID WIT by Dave Leriger

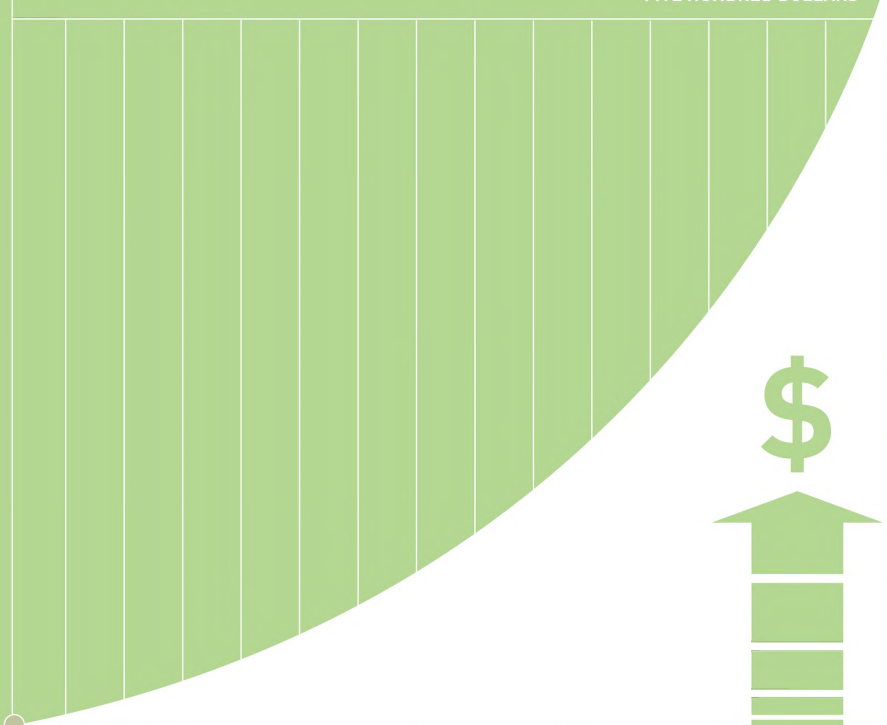


CARCINOMA by Lloyd Majewski



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FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS



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THE SECOND ANNUAL GATEWAY SCHOLARSHIP FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE FIELD OF EXCELLENCE

As part of our campaign for autonomy two years ago we promised you (students) that we would give back, not only with quality newspapers, but in the form of scholarships. And so: the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS) is giving away three \$500 scholarships to reward continuing students for their creativity, writing ability and media savvy.

Please go to www.gateway.ualberta.ca/scholarships to download a PDF of the application form, or pick up a hard copy from the Gateway offices on the third floor of SUB. Applicants shall submit a 500-word essay on independent campus media, to be judged for readiness by appointed members of the GSJS.

To be eligible for the scholarship you must be a full-time continuing student with a GPA of at least 2.0, but can neither be a staffer of the Gateway (this includes volunteers), nor a member of the GSJS Board of Directors, nor or a member of the GSJS Ombudsboard.

Applications will be due by noon on Friday April 9, 2004. Completed applications should be submitted in sealed envelopes labeled "ATTN: Gateway Scholarship Committee" either to the Gateway offices, 3rd floor SUB, or to reception at the Students' Union main offices. Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Only successful applicants will be contacted.

THE GATEWAY